

CENSUS OF INDIA 1971



TAMIL NADU

**PORTRAIT
OF
POPULATION**

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Foreword

This attempt to produce a popular version of the large census data for the general reader is an important innovation of the 1971 Indian census. Census publications concerning even a State run into a number of volumes. It is not possible for those who are not specialists to go through them all. At the same time, the basic information contained in the hundreds of census tables is rich and of significance to a much larger number of the public than is likely to consult the census series. It is with a view to cater for this group of readers grown up as also those who are now in high schools and colleges that this Portrait of Population relating to every State has been produced. It seeks to present in a brief compass all that may be of interest to the general reader and that too in a non-technical language.

I trust this venture will be welcomed and will help to introduce every responsible citizen to the scope and variety of information that is contained in our decennial census reports.

New Delhi,
17th October, 1973.

A. CHANDRA SEKHAR
REGISTRAR GENERAL, INDIA

PREFACE

The Indian census which celebrated its centenary in the year 1972 has been providing the statistics on the population in our country in a number of census publications. The information gathered, tabulated and analysed pertain to the varied characteristics of the population and it was not found feasible to present them all in a single volume.

The programme of the United Nations to celebrate the "World Population Year" in 1974 envisaged the objective of bringing an awareness of the demographic situation to the people. The census organisation of India was also thinking of bringing out a concise publication at the 1971 census indicating the distribution, growth and composition of the people counted in 1971 census for each State and Union Territory. This publication was to be written up in a formal and non-technical manner with suitable illustrations, maps etc. as to enable the high school and college students grasp easily the demographic statistics presented in it. The primary object of this publication was to enable the readers to understand the population census and also make available to them the basic demographic details which they would be requiring quite often.

The present volume is titled "Portrait of Population" or a popular version of the census report of the 1971 census in Tamil Nadu is to meet the needs of the lay readers including high school and college students and fulfils the objectives mentioned above. I have attempted to give the readers a brief summary of the population portrait of Tamil Nadu as revealed at the 1971 census. I earnestly hope that the materials presented in the book would acquaint the readers with the demographic situation prevailing and make them population conscious.

To Sri A. Chandra Sekhar, I.A.S., Registrar General, India at the time of the 1971 Census goes the credit for the

concept of the Portrait of population for each State/Union Territory and for publishing them. His immediate successor, Sri R. B. Chari, I.A.S. was equally enthusiastic and gave valuable support for the release of the census publications and had made useful suggestions in the materials published in this book. I am very much grateful to both of them for their guidance and help given to me in conducting the 1971 census operations in Tamil Nadu and for releasing the census publications.

Sri N. Rama Rao, the then Assistant Director of Census Operations gathered the materials and data for the tables presented in this volume besides making the preliminary draft of the various chapters. He was assisted by S/Sri K. Madhavan and G. Jayabalan, Assistant Compilers in the collection of statistical data. Sri M. Panchapakesan, Assistant Director and later Sri T. V. Srinivasan, Deputy Director assisted me to finalise this report. Smt. T. Saramma, fair typed the manuscripts for the press. Smt. M. V. Rajalakshmi, Statistical Assistant and Sri K. Madhavan helped in the scrutiny of the statistical data and reading of the proof. S/Sri A. Rajamani, Artist, N. Chandran, K. Palani, Draftsmen and M. Kothandraman, Computer prepared the illustrations and charts included in this book. I am very happy to record my appreciation of the enthusiasm and co-operation extended by all of them in bringing out this concise publication.

The printing of this book was done at the Government of India Press, Ring Road, New Delhi in a very short time. Sri N. C. Mukherjee, Manager of the above press and his officers have extended their co-operation fully for the completion of the printing work. I wish to place on record my thanks to them also.

K. CHOCKALINGAM

Madras

22-1-1978.

Director of Census Operations,
Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

The main source of population statistics in our country is the census taken once in ten years. Not all of us vote, not all of us are called upon to pay taxes, but all of us are counted in the decennial census. It is the only nationwide survey which seeks to find every one, men and women, young and old, the rich and the poor in the country.

A population census is something more than a mere head count. Information pertaining to the demographic, social and economic characteristics of every individual is ascertained at the time of the census. One may call the census the family portrait—the portrait of a very large family belonging to a nation—taken by a photographer who uses a big wide-angle lens. This photographer is known officially as the enumerator. The snap-shot provides a full picture of our population on the reference date which can be studied in detail at any time.

About this volume :

The census data are of great interest and importance to every citizen. But he has to wade through bulky volumes of traditional census reports and tables to know and understand them fully. To help him to get a good view of the portrait of our population without much difficulty, this volume, a popular version of the census report, has been brought out as part of 1971 census publication programme. The main purpose of the present volume is, therefore, to place before the public the important results of the 1971 census in Tamil Nadu and present a broad picture of certain basic characteristics of the State's population in a manner easily intelligible to the lay man. According to the 1971

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census, there are 548 million people in India and 41.2 million in Tamil Nadu. A rate of growth of 24.8 per cent during the decade 1961-71 at the all India level and an increase of 22.3 per cent at the State level leave no room for complacency with regard to our attempts to check the population growth. The stupendous increase in population overtakes economic advancement. It is in this context that an understanding of the population statistics by the student community and the public will be of immense help.

Why a population census ?

The aim of the population census is to count every one living in the country, at a particular time and record in respect of each individual the answers to a series of questions pertaining to age, marital status, religion, literacy, mother-tongue, main activity etc. The census questionnaire, called the individual slip, is used for this purpose. During this process, which is known as enumeration, sufficient care is taken to see that no human being is omitted from enumeration at the appointed time and no person is counted twice. This is followed by a detailed tabulation of data and publication of results in the form of reports and tables.

Reliable population statistics is a basic requirement of a democratic system of Government. Data on the size of the population and its geographical distribution are required for determining the size of legislatures and to demarcate electoral constituencies. With the ushering in of the era of planning, the census operations have assumed a new dimension. It has become the source of a variety of aspects in the economy of the nation—growth and distribution of population, urbanisation, man-power potential, employment, occupational trends and industrial affiliation of the population, literacy, migration, housing and the like. Apart from the planners, for those who undertake research and sample surveys, census data are of invaluable help. The census has to meet an increasing thirst for data from time to time.

Census history :

It was more than 2000 years ago that Kautilya's Arthashastra prescribed the counting of population as a measure of State policy for the purpose of taxation. The etymology of the term "census" is interesting. It is a word of Roman origin derived from "Censor" or the Magistrates in ancient Rome who maintained a register of citizens for taxation purposes and for conscription to military service.

These aims of the ancient censuses did not find favour with the people, and so census taking was given up during the mediaeval period. As years rolled by, the need for reliable population data was felt by the modern States for welfare purposes such as providing educational and health facilities, demarcation of electoral areas etc. The census gradually became welfare oriented. The State guaranteed that individual census information would be kept secret and publications would carry information collectively about the population. People realised that the population data were required purely for statistical purposes.

India has a rich census tradition. The census of 1971 marks the centenary of census taking in India. Though attempts were made from the very early times to estimate the population, it was only in 1871 that a beginning was made to conduct a regular census in the modern sense of the term.

The first census was, however, not synchronous and was in fact a compilation of enumerations spread over a period of five years from 1867 to 1872. It did not also cover the entire country. A uniform schedule was, however, canvassed. This encompassed the demographic, social and economic characteristics and laid the foundation for the modern decennial census in the country. The next census held in 1881 was complete and synchronous. This marked the beginning of decennial census in the country on an all-India basis. Censuses were taken once in ten years without interruption.

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Even during the Second World War period (1939-45), a census was taken in 1941.

There was a sharp reduction in the population caused by a virulent epidemic of influenza claiming a toll of 8.5 million lives during 1918-19. The non-co-operation movement in 1921-31 and the depression of the thirties and the Second World War of 1939-45 naturally reflected in the census count of those periods. While the 1911 census gave a population of as much as 315.2 million, the next one returned only a figure of 318.9 million. Compared with this, the population in the areas now constituting Free India made a big leap in the third and fourth decades of this century. In terms of figures, the increase in the 20 years of 30s and 40s was five times that of the previous two decades 1900-1920. The population returned by 1941 census stood at 318.5 million. In 1948, the Census Act was passed. In 1951, the first census after Independence was conducted. With the implementation of the Five Year Plans and other developmental schemes, the 1961 census, the second after Independence, had to be a comprehensive one and was conducted in the background of vast territorial changes that had taken place in the country. A major revision on a linguistic basis took place in 1956. On October 1, 1953, the new Andhra State including Telengana areas was constituted. The demarcation of the areas at different levels had to be done in the context of the new changes.

Census in Tamil Nadu :

Tamil Nadu is the name given on January 14, 1969 to the State of Madras which was born on November 1, 1956 as a unilingual State with Tamil as its language. Tamil Nadu is situated at the southern end of the Indian Peninsula. It is bounded on the north by Mysore and Andhra Pradesh, on the east by the Bay of Bengal, on the south by the Indian Ocean and on the west by Kerala. With a population of 41.2 million according to the 1971 census, it holds the seventh

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rank among the States of Indian Union. Tamil Nadu consists of the following fourteen districts : Madras City, Chengalpattu, North Arcot, South Arcot, Dharamapuri, Salem, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Ramana-
thapuram, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari.

First census of East India Company in 1687 :

It is interesting to find that the Court of Directors of the East India Company computed the population figure of three lakhs in 1687 in respect of the settlement of Madras comprising Fort St. George and villages around it. This marked the beginning of population count in this State even though the method of computation and area covered are not precisely known. The British administration periodically counted the population of the State in the years 1802, 1822, 1826, 1831, 1837, 1851, 1856, 1861 and 1866. These counts were, however, not in the pattern of modern census practice.

In 1871, a systematic count of the population and collection of data regarding age, caste, religion, occupation, education and infirmity was attempted. The Second Imperial Census was held in 1881 and this was followed by a census once in ten years.

How the census is planned :

House-numbering and houselisting are done as a prelude to the main census. For 1971 census this operation was completed in February 1970, about an year ahead of actual enumeration. The number of houses and an approximate number of persons residing in the households were provided by the houselisting operations of 1970 and this went a long way in planning the main census. A special schedule called the Houselist was used for this purpose. An Establishment schedule relating to establishments was also canvassed along with the houselist.

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An exhaustive list of all towns and villages was made out first and these were plotted in taluk maps. In the town maps ward boundaries were shown. Village layout plans showing the location of every house was also prepared.

As enumeration had to be carried out simultaneously in all parts of the State, towns and villages were sub-divided into small units called enumerators' blocks, each containing on an average 125 to 150 households. When mapped out, these enumerators' blocks appear as compact units, each adjoining the other without any interspace, encompassing the whole State. One person was generally earmarked for the work of enumerating the persons in one block.

The enumeration is generally done in two stages, preliminary enumeration being spread over a period of days and final enumeration on a particular day. The reference time has been the sunrise of March 1 from 1941 onwards.

Since the mid-term elections to Parliament and the State Legislature were held in this State during February 1971, enumeration could be conducted only during 10th March to 31st March 1971 instead of 10th February to 28th February and the sunrise of April 1, 1971 became the reference time for the 1971 census.

The Census Organisation :

Census is a Union subject. The Census Commissioner of India guides and supervises the entire work involved in the taking of the census in the country. He is assisted by a Director of Census appointed for each State and Union Territory. The State Governments make available the services of the entire administrative machinery to take the census.

Till 1961, there was no permanent census organisation in our country. On the eve of each census, a Census Commissioner was appointed and he planned the census opera-

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tions, organised the enumeration, tabulated and produced the reports. After the work was over, the census organisation was completely disbanded only to be started before the next census. Since 1961, however, the census organisation with a nucleus staff continued during the inter-censal period. There is a permanent census organisation now.

Enumerators :

About 65,000 enumerators or "census photographers" were briskly moving about from house to house during March-April, 1971 when census was taken in the State. They were mostly teachers, village level officials and clerks. The work of the enumerators was checked by supervisors. The enumerators and supervisors discharged their work cheerfully with a sense of dedication, as a labour of love.

The census schedule :

The individual slip, the basic schedule of the 1971 census containing 17 questions which was intended for every individual residing in the country and the population record which is a separate schedule for each household containing the basic particulars of its members, were filled in during the 1971 census. The individual slip given in Appendix-I shows the various items of information collected.

Mechanical processing :

The data presented and analysed in this volume are basic information collected in the 1971 census and processed cent per cent by thousands of sorters and compilers in the tabulation offices soon after the census. A part of the data collected in the census was processed on electronic computers for the first time in this census. The 1971 census makes a greater use of sampling techniques than the earlier censuses in the tabulation of some of the data.

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With this background regarding this huge but invaluable statistical exercise conducted once in a decade, the reader can have an idea of the broad characteristics of the population as revealed by the 1971 census in the chapters that follow. For more details on any of the aspects, the reader can refer to the census volume containing the concerned Table or Report published by us. The publication programme is given in Appendix-II to enable the reader to do so.

APPENDIX I

CONFIDENTIAL

CENSUS OF INDIA 1971

Individual Slip

Pad No.

Slip No. _____

Location Code _____

Household No.

1. Name _____

2. Relationship to head _____

3. Sex

4. Age _____

5. Marital status _____

6. For currently married women only

(a) Age at marriage _____

(b) Any child born in the last one year _____

(c) Place of birth _____

(d) Rural/Urban _____

(e) District _____

(f) State/Country _____

(g) Place of last residence _____

(h) Rural/Urban _____

(i) District _____

(j) State/Country _____

(k) Duration of Residence at the Village or town of Enumeration _____

(l) Religion _____

(m) S. C.

(n) or _____

(o) S. I.

(p) Literacy

(q) (L or O)

(r) Educational level _____

(s) Mother _____

(t) Tongue _____

(u) Other _____

(v) languages _____

16. MAIN ACTIVITY

(a) Broad category

(i) Worker (C, A, L, HHI, OW)

(ii) Non-Worker (H, ST, R, D, B, I, O)

(b) Place of work (Name of Village/Town) _____

(c) Name of Establishment _____

(d) Nature of Industry, Trade, Profession or Service _____

(e) Description of Work _____

(f) Class of worker _____

(g) _____

(h) Class of worker _____

17. SECONDARY WORK

(a) Broad category (C, A, L, HHI, OW)

(b) Place of work (Name of Village/Town) _____

(c) Name of Establishment _____

(d) Nature of Industry, Trade, Profession or Service _____

(e) Description of Work _____

(f) Class of worker _____

(g) _____

(h) Class of worker _____

APPENDIX II

CENSUS OF INDIA, 1971—PUBLICATION PROGRAMME

Tamil Nadu

(Series 19 relates to Tamil Nadu only. Under this series, the following publications will be issued.)

@Portrait of Population	A Descriptive Analysis of '1971 Census data
Part I—A	General Report (First Part)
Part I—B	General Report (Second Part)
Part I—C	Subsidiary Tables
*Part II—A	General Population Tables (A Series)
*Part II—A Supplement	General Population Tables (Standard Urban Areas)
*Part II—B(i)	General Economic Tables (B-I Part A and B-II)
Part II-B(ii)	General Economic Tables (B-I Part B; B-III and B-IV)
Part II-B(iii)	General Economic Tables (B-V to B-IX)
Part II-C(i)	Social and Cultural Tables (Tables C-VII and C-VIII)
Part II-C(ii)	Other Social & Cultural Tables and Fertility Tables
Part II-D	Migration Tables
*Part III-A	Report on Establishments
*Part III-B	Establishments—Tables
*Part IV	Housing Report and Tables
Part V-A	Special Tables for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

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Part V-B	Ethnographic Notes on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
Part VI-A	Town Directory
Part VI-B	Special Survey Reports on Selected Towns
Part VI-C	Survey Reports on Selected Villages
*Part VIII A & B	Administration Report on Enumeration & Tabulation (for official use only)
Part IX	Census Atlas
*Part IX-A	Administrative Atlas (Two volumes)
Part X	District Census Hand Books
*A	Village and Town Directory
*B	Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract
C	Analytical Report, Administrative Statements and District Census Tables
	Special Studies and other Miscellaneous Reports.

ALL INDIA PUBLICATIONS

Volumes similar to those indicated above are being published at the All India level. Apart from these, All India Census Tables on 1% sample basis, as Part II (Special) and a Special Report on Graduates and Technical Personnel as Part VII have been published.

*Already published

@Present publication

CHAPTER II

How many are we? How are we distributed? By how much are our numbers growing ?

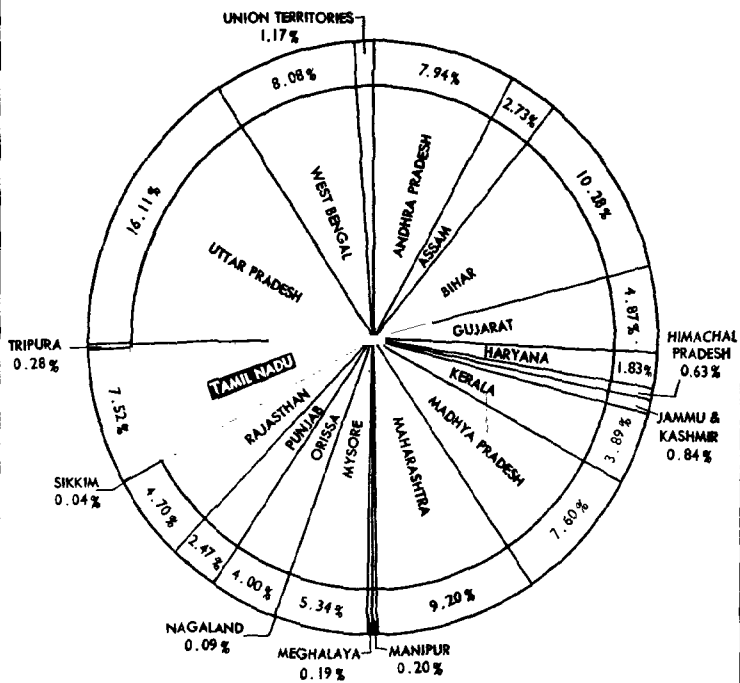
At sunrise of April 1, 1971, there were 548 million persons in India. In Tamil Nadu the number was 41.2* million at that moment. As the provisional 1971 head count figures came out on April 12, the words "boom" and "explosion" were heard in the land since the population increase of about 25 per cent during the decade was the equivalent of creating an entire new nation, with a population more than that of Japan or U.K. within our borders.

Tamil Nadu vis-a-vis other States :

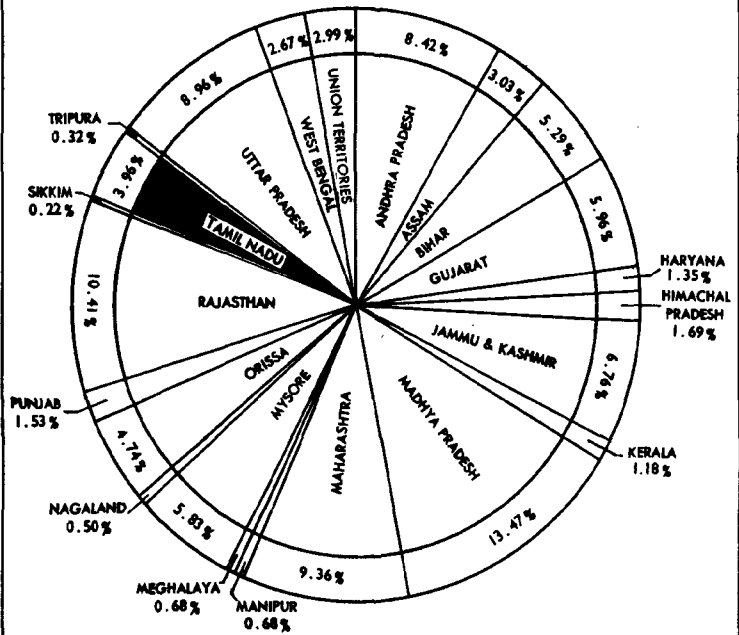
Let us view the population of Tamil Nadu in juxtaposition with the population of other States of India. Among the States and Union Territories, Tamil Nadu ranks seventh in population size, having 7.5 per cent of the country's total population. The State is spread over an area of 130,069 Km² which is about 4 per cent of the area of India as a whole. In area, its rank among the States is eleventh. Table 2-1 gives the population and area of the different States and Union Territories in 1971, the growth rate during 1961-71 and the ranks of States in respect of population and area in 1971. The population of Tamil Nadu is about 47 per cent that of the most populous State in the country, viz. Uttar Pradesh. The southern States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Mysore and Kerala come in that order in respect of population.

*How to visualise such a big number ? Generally, a huge public meeting held on the sands of the Marina in Madras, for example, is attended by about ten thousand persons. To take 10,000 back home about 200 buses are required. Hundred such congregations make a million. Forty-one groups each containing the strength of hundred public meetings approximately represent the population of Tamil Nadu.

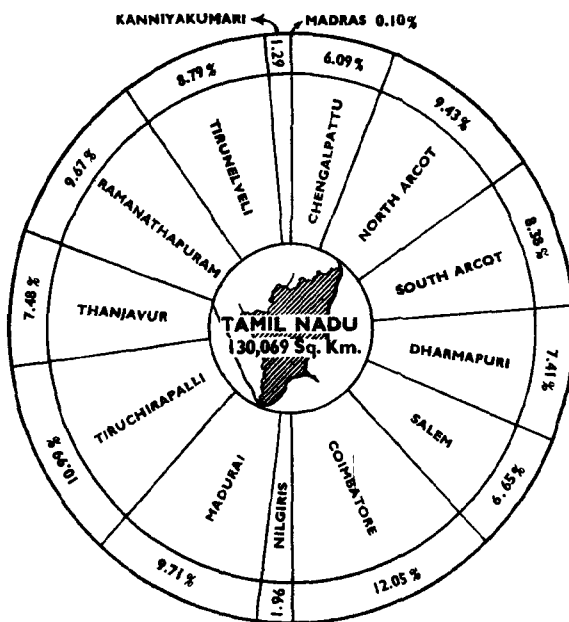
POPULATION-INDIA AND STATES 1971



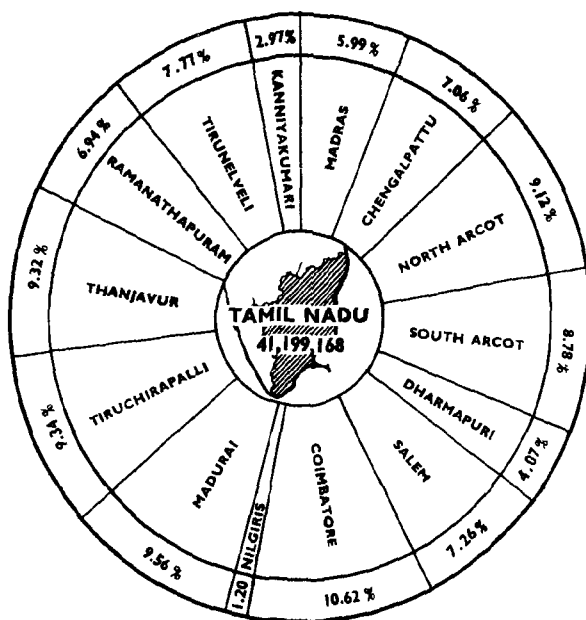
AREA-INDIA AND STATES 1971



AREA - TAMIL NADU AND DISTRICTS 1971



POPULATION-TAMIL NADU AND DISTRICTS 1971



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Population distribution among the districts in our State :

Now let us see how our State's population is distributed. The State is divided into fourteen districts. The area of each district and its percentage to the total area of the State are indicated in Table 2-2. Madras, the capital of the State, has the lowest area of 128 km². Among the districts (excluding Madras City), Kanyakumari with an extent of 1,684 km² is the smallest district. The biggest district is Coimbatore (15,673 km².) which comprises about 12 per cent of the total area of the State. The average area of a district in Tamil Nadu is 9,290 km², and for the country, the average works out to 9,133 km².

The distribution of the State's population among the districts is shown in Table 2-3. Among the districts in the State, Coimbatore is the most populous and accounts for 10.62 per cent of the population of the State. On the basis of population proportion we may group the districts as follows :—

District which has more than 10 per cent of the State's population :	Coimbatore
Districts which have more than 8 per cent and less than 10 per cent of the State's population :	North Arcot, South Arcot, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur
Districts which have 5 to 8 per cent of the State's population :	Madras City, Chengalpattu, Salem, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli
Districts which have less than 5 per cent of the State's population :	Dharmapuri, Kanyakumari and Nilgiris

On the basis of population, Nilgiris is the smallest district having 1.2 per cent of the population of the State.

What is the average district population ? The average population of a district is arrived at by dividing the total population of the State by the number of districts in it. It is 2.9 million for our State. This is nearly double the average district population in the country which is 1.5 million. Table 2-4 gives the average population of districts in the

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States of India. The States have been arranged in a descending order of average district population. Tamil Nadu is next only to Bihar in respect of average district population.

In the thirteen districts of the State (barring Madras City) there are 133 taluks and independent sub-taluks. The average population of a taluk/independent sub-taluk in Tamil Nadu is 291,201 (and this excludes Madras district which is a city). As may be seen from Table 2-5, the population size of a taluk is the highest in Coimbatore district (485,909) and lowest in Nilgiris district (164,672).

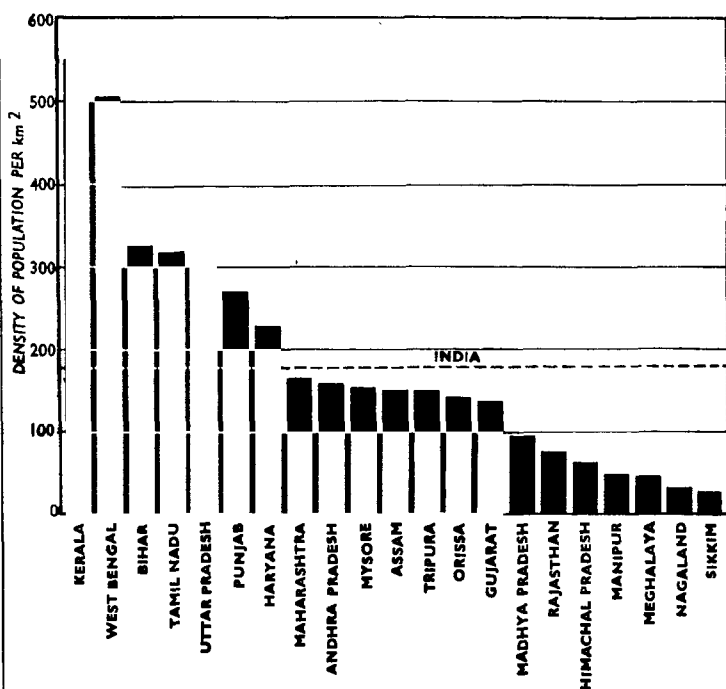
Density of population :

The population and area of any region can be correlated to know the pressure of man on land. This leads us on to the density of population which is a simple index arrived at by dividing the total population in a region by its area. It is expressed as so many persons per square kilometre of area.

The average density of population in Tamil Nadu is 317 per km². In rural areas it is 231 and in urban it is 2,115. Urban areas of the State are therefore nearly ten times as crowded as rural areas. Tamil Nadu is far more densely populated than the country as a whole. The densities of population of all the States in India are presented in Table 2-6.

Tamil Nadu takes the fourth place among the States in respect of density of population, the first three being Kerala, West Bengal and Bihar. Uttar Pradesh which is the most populous State having as much as 16 per cent of the country's population, comes only next to Tamil Nadu in density. Madhya Pradesh which leads the States in area has a low density of 94. This is due to the fact that this State has forests, mountains and ravines which are not inhabited.

DENSITY OF POPULATION IN INDIA AND STATES 1971



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Differential density among districts :

The densities of population in the districts in 1971 and 1961 are exhibited in Table 2-7. As may be expected, Madras, the capital city and seat of administration which is also an important industrial and trading centre, has the highest density of 19,293. Among the districts (excluding Madras) the density varies from 174 in Dharmapuri district to 726 in Kanyakumari district.

Density of population by cultivated area :

We get a density of 317 for the State taking into account the total geographical area. The total land, however, includes forests, barren and uncultivable land etc. It is more rational to exclude them from the basic area and it will be interesting to know the density taking into account only the cultivated area. The percentage of land in the State under different categories is given in Table 2-8.

Adding to the net area sown the land area under tree crops and groves, we find that 50.4 per cent of the State's area is cultivable land. An area of 65,555 km² is, therefore, under cultivation. Taking this area into consideration, the density of population works out to 628 per km² which is nearly double the density (317) calculated by the traditional method. In other words, nearly 628 persons are dependent on every square kilometre of cultivated area in Tamil Nadu.

Where do our people live ?

In the State, there are 7,708,173 occupied residential houses containing 8,571,903 households. A household is defined as a group of persons commonly living together and taking their food from a common kitchen. It, therefore, refers to a family or those living as a family. Table 2-9 gives the number of houses, households and proportion of households to 100 residential houses in the districts.

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It is observed that in 100 houses 111 households reside in the State as a whole. In Madras City where there is shortage of housing, 131 households live in 100 houses. As is to be expected, the proportion is in general higher in urban areas than in rural areas. In 1961, 114 households resided in 100 houses. During the decade 1961-71, however, the number of households per 100 houses has come down to 111.

The number of persons per household in the State and districts are shown in Table 2-10. In the State as a whole, in 100 households 502 persons live in urban areas whereas only 470 persons live in rural areas. The average size of a household in the State is 4.8. In 1961 the average size of a household worked out to 4.6. There is, therefore, only a marginal increase in the size of a household during 1961-71.

Quality of housing :

A census house may represent a hut in the city slum, a hovel in a hamlet or a palatial mansion. Apart from the number of houses, the quality of housing needs attention.

In Table 2-11 the proportions of census houses under material of wall and roof are given. It is seen that in the rural areas of the State 67.7 per cent of the houses have mud walls and 59.7 per cent houses have grass, leaves, reeds, thatch etc. as roof material. In the urban areas, 55.2 per cent of the houses have burnt brick walls and 45.7 per cent have tiles, slate or shingle as roof material. There is much to be done to improve the quality of housing especially in the rural areas. The majority of households in our State occupy single rooms only (vide Table 2-12).

Houseless population :

In Tamil Nadu, for every lakh of population there are as many as 177 without homes. In the urban areas, the number of houseless persons per lakh of population is 230. In the rural areas the figure is 154. In terms of absolute figures

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72,959 persons are houseless in the State. Of them, 44,235 live in the rural areas. In 1961, the number of houseless persons in the State was 60,352 (26,928 in rural areas and 33,424 in urban areas). The rise in the number of houseless people during 1961-71 is therefore 20.9 per cent. The percentage increase in the rural houseless population is 64.3. The houseless population in urban areas has decreased by 14.1 per cent. Perhaps the urban population has been increasingly absorbed by the urban slums which provide some sort of housing.

Though large in number, rural housing shortage is not as shocking as urban housing shortage for the following reasons : First, villages are less congested. Secondly the open air and non-sedentary occupation of the rural folk counterbalance to a considerable extent the evils of houselessness.

On the other hand, the conditions of urban houseless are more distressing. One could see a number of families living on the pavements of Madras City. They are mostly labourers and beggars. The houseless persons are not all tramps but ordinary citizens in all but for the possession of a house. The houseless population of 7,049 in the city is in addition to the population living in the slums with poor housing conditions. According to an estimate made in 1971, 33.5 per cent of City's population live in 1,202 slums. Steps are being taken by the Government to eradicate slums from the City. A Slum Clearance Board has also been constituted for this purpose which is now engaged in constructing tenements for slum dwellers.

Institutional population :

The institutional population includes those who reside in hotels, hostels, boarding houses, hospitals, penal and charitable institutions and other institutions in which persons reside together. There are 17,931 such households in the State—14,840 in urban areas and 3,091 in rural areas. The

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institutional households in the State cover 307,986 persons. Males numbering 218,924 predominate in these institutional households.

For every 1,000 persons in the State, seven live in institutional households. In the urban areas, 19 out of 1,000 and in the rural areas three out of 1,000 live in institutional households. The institutional population in the State has increased by about 56.8 per cent during the decade 1961-71.

Population Growth :

The difference between the number of births and number of deaths in an area during a year is called the natural increase of the population of that area during that year. The rate at which the population of a given area is growing over a given period of time is called the growth rate of that population. To give an example, the population of Tamil Nadu has increased to 41.2 million in 1971 from 33.7 million in 1961. The increase in the population of the State during the decade is 7.5 million. Expressed as a percentage over the 1961 population, this increase is 22.3 per cent for the decade. This is called percentage decade variation. The annual average growth or arithmetic growth rate is 2.23 per cent.

Geometric growth rate is based on the principle that every addition to a given population made in one year will also grow along with the original population in the next year. This follows the compound interest law. The geometric growth rate is adopted for international use. Let us take a simple example. Let there be a population of 10,000 this year in a place and let us assume it grows at one per cent per annum. Next year the population of the place will be 10,100. At the end of the second year the population will be 10,201 and not 10,200 and at the end of the third year it will become 10,303 and not 10,300 and so on. Population thus grows according to "compound interest" law and not according to the principle of "simple interest". The world population grows at the geometric growth rate of 2 per cent a year, the population of India at 2.22 per cent and

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the population of Tamil Nadu at 2.1 per cent. Crude birth rate is one of the measures of fertility. Generally it is got by dividing the total number of live births in a given area during a given year by the total number of people living in that area at the middle of that year and multiplying the resultant fraction by 1,000. Crude death rate is a measure of mortality. Generally it is arrived at by dividing the total number of deaths in a given area during a given year by the total number of people living in that area at the middle of that year and multiplying the result by 1,000.

The difference between the number of in-migrants into an area during a year and the number of out-migrants from that area during that year gives the net migration during that year.

Components of population growth :

The population growth of an area during an year is given by adding natural increase in that area during the year and the net migration in that year. Thus, birth, death and migration are the three factors which affect the growth of population and these are referred to as the components of population growth.

The birth and death rates are obtained by using birth and death statistics called vital statistics collected by the registrars of births and deaths. In the Western countries, vital statistics are collected systematically. In our country, there is considerable under-registration of births and deaths. The Sample Registration Scheme of the Registrar General, India, is designed to have quick and reliable estimates of birth and death rates. Attempts are also made to improve the regular registration machinery.

World perspective :

With this background of the demographic concepts, we can proceed to study the growth of population of our country and State.

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According to the "medium" projections made by the United Nations, representing the trend considered most plausible, the total world population may continue to grow at a virtually constant rate of about 2 per cent annually until 1985. A downward trend would then start ending at 1.7 per cent rate by the end of the century. In absolute terms, the population of the world may increase from the present 3.6 billion to 4.5 billion in 1980, 5.4 billion in 1990 and 6.5 billion in 2000 A.D. The less developed regions would double their population to a total of 5 billion by 2000 A.D. or more than three times the population total of 1.5 billion projected for developed countries.

The rates of population growth are not the same in all parts of the world. In some parts, the population is growing rapidly and in some areas it is not. In general, the population growth is low in developed countries.

The advanced countries have shown rates around one per cent a year. The less developed countries have registered rates between two to three per cent. The difference of one per cent in growth rate may appear very small. But a population growing at the rate of one per cent needs 70 years to double itself whereas a population growing at the rate of two per cent will need only 35 years to double itself and a population growing at the rate of three per cent will double within 23 years.

In countries which today are more developed, birth rates were once at much higher levels. After many many years, the death rates declined as development advanced and birth rates eventually dropped as well. This process has been called "demographic transition".

The Indian scene :

The population of India from 1901 onwards and the decennial variation are shown in Table 2-13. Large-scale

famines and epidemics which kept the population at sub-normal level during 1901-11 and 1911-21 disappeared with the introduction of new techniques in agricultural production and better communication system. The growth was stabilised from 1921 onwards and there was a steady increase as standard of public health improved. The year 1921 has rightly been described as the "great divide" in Indian population by Sri R. A. Gopalaswami, Registrar General, India, in 1951. The growth rate went up from 13.3 per cent during 1941-51 to 21.51 per cent in 1951-61, consequent on the improved health conditions and decreased mortality rates. During the last decade 1961-71 the growth rate has increased further to 24.80 per cent.

It will thus be seen that after the country attained Independence i.e., after the Census of 1951 there has been an accelerated population growth. The decrease in the death rate from 42.6 in 1901-11 to 15.9 in 1970 reflects the tremendous improvement in public health and sanitary conditions.

The death rate in our country has come down over the years. It was 42.6 in 1901-11 and in 1970 it came down to 15.9. The birth rate was 49.2 in 1901-11 and in 1970 it was 37.0. Thus while the death rate has declined by about 27 points, the birth rate has come down by only 12 points since the turn of the century. A sharp decline in mortality with a high birth rate has led to a steep increase in population.

What about future population growth? Population projections are made under certain assumptions regarding fertility and mortality. The projection for India, made by the Expert Committee of the Planning Commission for 1971 was 12 million higher than the actual census count. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned the Committee's projection fell short of the 1971 census count by 1.17 million.

According to the tentative projections made under the guidance of the Expert Committee, the population of India

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will be of the order of 605 million in 1976 and 657 million in 1981. We may take these figures as broad indications of the future population size.

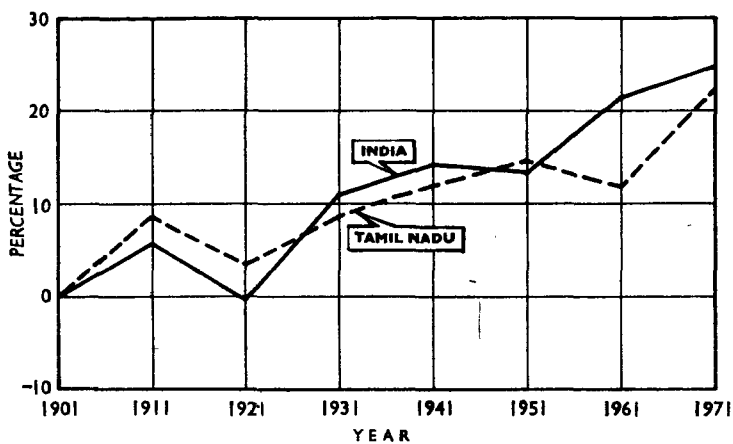
Population growth of Tamil Nadu :

The population of Tamil Nadu and the decennial growth rates from 1901 onwards are shown in Table 2-14. The growth rate of 22.3 per cent is the highest decadal increase ever registered by the State. The population has increased from 33.7 million in 1961 to 41.2 million in 1971. The growth of population in Tamil Nadu in the decade 1951-61 was 11.9 per cent as against all India growth rate of 21.51 per cent and in 1961-71 the growth rate of Tamil Nadu has gone up to 22.3 per cent when the rate of increase for the whole country is 24.8 per cent. During 1951-60 the birth and death rates for the State were 34.9 and 22.5 respectively. For the period 1961-70 the birth and death rates have been estimated as 33.6 and 16.4.

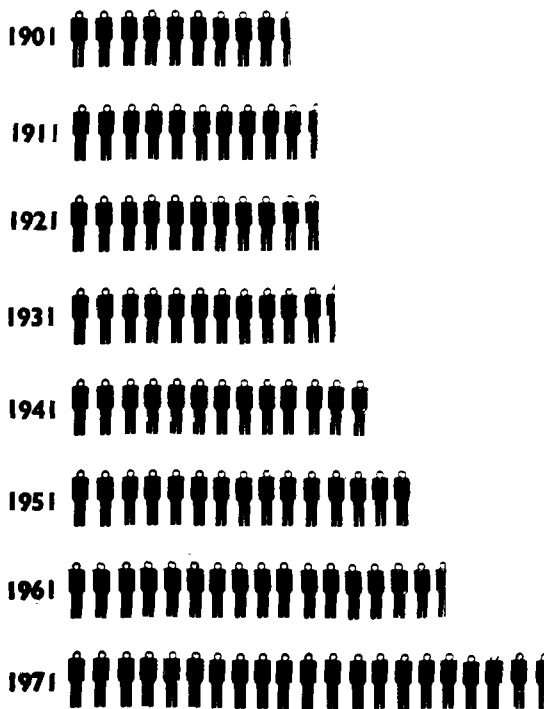
In this connection it will be interesting to note the figures in Table 2-15 regarding growth rate of population during 1951-61 and 1961-71 in all States of India. The rate of growth registered by Tamil Nadu during 1961-71 is nearly double that recorded during 1951-61. Barring Jammu and Kashmir and Nagaland no other State has registered such an increase over the rate of growth in the previous decade.

The decennial growth rates of the districts in the State during 1951-61 and 1961-71 are shown in Table 2-16. Madras City has recorded the maximum growth rate of 42.81 during 1961-71. The other districts which have registered a growth rate more than the State average of 22.3 are ; Chengalpattu, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore, Madurai and Kanniyakumari. Kanniyakumari district which formed part of the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State, has been recording a fairly high rate of growth from 1901 onwards.

GROWTH OF POPULATION (INDIA AND TAMIL NADU)



GROWTH OF POPULATION 1901-1971



EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 2,000,000 PERSONS

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Our numbers are thus growing at an appallingly fast rate. If this pattern of population growth continues, the entire fabric of society—its economy, its policy and its social structure—will be greatly influenced. The problems of scarcity of essential commodities like foodgrains may get aggravated at this rate of growth. Recognising the need for curbing the birth rate to solve this problem, a mass campaign of family planning has been launched in the country. Perhaps the 1981 census will tell us how far we have succeeded in this attempt.

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TABLE 2-1
Area and Population of States and Union Territories, 1971

Sl. No	India/State/Union Territory	Persons	Percentage to all India population	Rank in population	Area in 000s of Km ²	Percentage to all India area	Rank in area	Decennial growth rate of population 1961-71
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	INDIA	548,159,652	100.00	..	3,288	100.00	..	24.80
	States							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43,502,708	7.94	5	277	8.42	5	20.90
2.	Assam*	14,957,542	2.73	13	100	3.03	12	34.71
3.	Bihar	56,353,369	10.28	2	174	5.29	9	21.33
4.	Gujarat	26,697,475	4.87	9	196	5.96	7	29.39
5.	Haryana	10,036,808	1.83	15	44	1.35	17	32.23
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3,460,434	0.63	18	56	1.69	15	23.04
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	4,616,632	0.84	16	222	6.76	6	29.65
8.	Kerala	21,347,375	3.89	12	39	1.18	18	26.29
9.	Madhya Pradesh	41,654,119	7.60	6	443	13.47	1	28.67
10.	Maharashtra	50,412,235	9.20	3	308	9.36	3	27.45
11.	Manipur	1,072,753	0.20	20	22	0.68	20	37.53
12.	Meghalaya	1,011,699	0.19	21	22	0.68	19	31.50
13.	Mysore	29,299,014	5.34	8	192	5.83	8	24.22
14.	Nagaland	516,449	0.09	23	17	0.50	21	39.88
15.	Orissa	21,944,615	4.00	11	156	4.74	10	25.05
16.	Punjab	13,551,060	2.47	14	50	1.53	16	21.70

TABLE 2-1 (Contd.)
Area and Population of States and Union Territories, 1971

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	Persons	Percentage to all India population	Rank in population	Area in 000s of Km ²	Percentage to all India area	Rank in area	Decennial growth rate of population 1961-71
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
17.	Rajasthan . . .	25,765,806	4.70	10	342	10.41	2	27.83
18.	Sikkim . . .	209,843	0.04	27	7	0.22	24	29.38
19.	Tamil Nadu . . .	41,199,168	7.52	7	130	3.96	11	22.30
20.	Tripura . . .	1,556,342	0.28	19	10	0.32	22	36.28
21.	Uttar Pradesh . . .	88,341,144	16.11	1	294	8.96	4	19.78
22.	West Bengal . . .	44,312,011	8.08	4	88	2.67	13	26.87
<i>Union Territories</i>								
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	115,133	0.02	28	8	0.25	23	81.17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh . . .	467,511	0.09	25	84	2.54	14	38.91
3.	Chandigarh . . .	257,251	0.05	26	0.11	N	29	114.59
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli . . .	74,170	0.01	29	0.49	0.02	27	27.96
5.	Delhi . . .	4,065,698	0.74	17	1.49	0.05	26	52.93
6.	Goa, Daman and Diu . . .	857,771	0.16	22	3.81	0.12	25	36.88
7.	Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands . . .	31,810	0.01	30	0.03	N	30	31.95
8.	Pondicherry . . .	471,707	0.09	24	0.48	0.01	28	27.81

N : Denotes negligible percentage.

*Includes Mizo district now constituted as a separate Union Territory of Mizoram.

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TABLE 2-2

Area of Districts in Tamil Nadu

State/District	Area (in Km ²)	Percentage to total area of the State
1	2	3
TAMIL NADU	130,069	100.00
1. Madras	128	0.10
2. Chengalpattu	7,920	6.09
3. North Arcot	12,265	9.43
4. South Arcot	10,898	8.38
5. Dharmapuri	9,643	7.41
6. Salem	8,643	6.65
7. Coimbatore	15,673	12.05
8. Nilgiris	2,549	1.96
9. Madurai	12,629	9.71
10. Tiruchirappalli	14,291	10.99
11. Thanjavur	9,735	7.48
12. Ramanathapuram	12,578	9.67
13. Tirunelveli	11,433	8.79
14. Kanniyakumari	1,684	1.29

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TABLE 2-3

Population in the Districts of Tamil Nadu, 1971

State/District	Population			Percentage to the total population of the State
	Total	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5
TAMIL NADU	41,199,168	20,828,021	20,371,147	100.00
1. Madras	2,469,449	1,297,195	1,172,254	5.99
2. Chengalpattu	2,907,599	1,492,978	1,414,621	7.06
3. North Arcot	3,755,797	1,905,360	1,850,437	9.12
4. South Arcot	3,617,723	1,836,950	1,780,773	8.78
5. Dharmapuri	1,677,775	852,274	825,501	4.07
6. Salem	2,992,616	1,524,329	1,468,287	7.26
7. Coimbatore	4,373,178	2,235,039	2,138,139	10.62
8. Nilgiris	494,015	254,120	239,895	1.20
9. Madurai	3,938,197	1,982,905	1,955,292	9.56
10. Tiruchirapalli	3,848,816	1,932,551	1,916,265	9.34
11. Thanjavur	3,840,732	1,926,043	1,914,689	9.32
12. Ramanathapuram	2,860,207	1,400,835	1,459,372	6.94
13. Tirunelveli	3,200,515	1,567,558	1,632,957	7.77
14. Kanniyakumari	1,222,549	619,884	602,665	2.97

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TABLE 2-4
Average District Population in the States

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Average district population (in millions)
1	2	3
1. Bihar		3.31
2. Tamil Nadu		2.94
3. West Bengal		2.77
4. Kerala		2.13
5. Andhra Pradesh		2.07
6. Maharashtra		1.94
7. Orissa		1.69
8. Uttar Pradesh		1.64
9. Mysore		1.54
10. Assam*		1.50
11. Haryana		1.43
12. Gujarat		1.41
13. Punjab		1.23
14. Rajasthan		0.99
15. Madhya Pradesh		0.97
16. Tripura		0.52
17. Meghalaya		0.51
18. Jammu & Kashmir		0.46
19. Himachal Pradesh		0.35
20. Manipur		0.21
21. Nagaland		0.17
22. Sikkim		0.05

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

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TABLE 2-5

Average Population of the Taluks of Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	District	Average population of the taluk*
1	2	3
1.	Chengalpattu	242,300
2.	North Arcot	288,907
3.	South Arcot	452,215
4.	Dharmapuri	239,682
5.	Salem	332,513
6.	Coimbatore	485,909
7.	Nilgiris	164,672
8.	Madurai	328,183
9.	Tiruchirapalli	296,063
10.	Thanjavur	295,441
11.	Ramanathapuram	168,247
12.	Tirunelveli	246,193
13.	Kanniyakumari	305,637

*Includes independent sub-taluks.

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TABLE 2-6
Density of Population in the States

India/State	Density of population per Km ² in 1971
1	2
INDIA	177@
1. Andhra Pradesh	157
2. Assam*	150
3. Bihar	324
4. Gujarat	136
5. Haryana	227
6. Himachal Pradesh	62
7. Jammu & Kashmir	N.A.
8. Kerala	549
9. Madhya Pradesh	94
10. Maharashtra	164
11. Manipur	48
12. Meghalaya	45
13. Mysore	153
14. Nagaland	31
15. Orissa	141
16. Punjab	269
17. Rajasthan	75
18. Sikkim	29
19. Tamil Nadu	317
20. Tripura	149
21. Uttar Pradesh	300
22. West Bengal	504

N.A. Not available.

@While working out the density, the area and population of Jammu & Kashmir have been excluded as comparable data are not available.

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

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TABLE 2-7
Density of Population in the Districts in
1971 and 1961

State/District	Density of population per Km ² in 1971	Density of population per Km ² in 1961
1	2	3
TAMIL NADU	317	258
1. Madras	19,293	13,615
2. Chengalpattu	367	280
3. North Arcot	306	246
4. South Arcot	332	280
5. Dharmapuri	174	138
6. Saïem	346	288
7. Coimbatore	279	228
8. Nilgiris	194	161
9. Madurai	312	253
10. Tiruchirapalli	269	223
11. Thanjavur	395	335
12. Ramanathapuram	227	193
13. Tirunelveli	280	239
14. Kanniyakumari	726	599

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TABLE 2-8
Percentage of Different Categories of Land
to Total Geographical Area of Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	Category of land	Percentage to total geographical area (1970-71)
1	2	3
1.	Forests	14.7
2.	Barren and uncultivable land	6.7
3.	Land put to non-agricultural uses	9.8
4.	Cultivable waste	5.0
5.	Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	2.6
6.	Land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves (not included in the net area sown)	2.1
7.	Current fallows	7.0
8.	Other fallow land	3.8
9.	Net area sown	48.3

(Source : Director of Statistics, Madras)

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TABLE 2-9
Number of Houses and Households

State/District	No. of occupied residential houses	No. of house holds*	No. of households per 100 houses
1	2	3	4
TAMIL NADU	7,708,173	8,571,903	111
1. Madras	338,414	443,154	131
2. Chengalpattu	530,397	598,360	113
3. North Arcot	635,101	748,386	118
4. South Arcot	659,000	745,833	113
5. Dharmapuri	290,774	311,485	107
6. Salem	619,361	651,306	105
7. Coimbatore	853,550	955,928	112
8. Nilgiris	95,771	98,732	103
9. Madurai	687,356	817,874	119
10. Tiruchirapalli	771,112	828,599	107
11. Thanjavur	750,759	815,740	109
12. Ramanathapuram	589,206	615,568	104
13. Tirunelveli	678,025	712,840	105
14. Kanniyakumari	209,347	228,098	109

*Excluding houseless households

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TABLE 2-10
Number of Persons per Household in the
State and Districts

State/District	No. of persons per household
1	2
TAMIL NADU	4.8
1. Madras	5.6
2. Chengalpattu	4.9
3. North Arcot	5.0
4. South Arcot	4.8
5. Dharmapuri	5.4
6. Salem	4.6
7. Coimbatore	4.6
8. Nilgiris	5.0
9. Madurai	4.8
10. Tiruchirapalli	4.6
11. Thanjavur	4.7
12. Ramanathapuram	4.6
13. Tirunelveli	4.5
14. Kanniyakumari	5.4

TABLE 2-11
Distribution of Census Houses by Predominant Material of Wall and Roof
in Tamil Nadu

Material of wall	Distribution of 1,000 Census houses by predo- minant material of wall in rural and urban areas		Material of roof		Distribution of 1,000 Census houses by predo- minant material of roof in rural and urban areas	
	Rural	Urban	4		Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4		5	6
Grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo	11	18	Grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, mud, unburnt bricks or bamboo		597	277
Mud	677	315	Tiles, slate, shingle		314	457
Unburnt bricks	27	24	Corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets		12	29
Wood	3	5	Asbestos cement sheets		3	10
Burnt bricks	192	552	Brick and lime		42	101
G.I. sheets or other metal sheets	N	2	Stone		2	2
Stone	89	74	Concrete, RBC/RCC		30	124
Cement concrete	1	10	All other materials and mate- rials not stated		N	N
All other materials and materials not stated	N	N				

N : Denotes negligible figures.

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TABLE 2-12

Percentage Distribution of Households in Tamil Nadu According to Number of Rooms Occupied

No. of rooms occupied	Percentage of households		
	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
One room	62.4	65.5	54.4
Two rooms	24.3	23.6	25.9
Three rooms	7.7	6.6	10.6
Four rooms	3.1	2.5	4.7
Five rooms and above	2.3	1.6	4.1
Unspecified	0.2	0.2	0.3

TABLE 2-13

Decennial Variation in the Population of India

Year	Population	Decennial variation (percentage)
1	2	3
1901	238,396,327	..
1911	252,093,390	+5.75
1921	251,321,213	-0.31
1931	278,977,238	+11.00
1941	318,660,580	+14.22
1951	361,088,090	+13.31
1961	439,234,771	+21.51
1971	548,159,652	+24.80

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TABLE 2-14

Population of Tamil Nadu from 1901 onwards

Year	Population	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1	2	3	4
1901 . . .	19,252,630	..	..
1911 . . .	20,902,616	+1,649,986	+8.57
1921 . . .	21,628,518	+725,902	+3.47
1931 . . .	23,472,099	+1,843,581	+8.52
1941 . . .	26,267,507	+2,795,408	+11.91
1951 . . .	30,119,047	+3,851,540	+14.66
1961 . . .	33,686,953	+3,567,906	+11.85
1971 . . .	41,199,168	+7,512,215	+22.30

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TABLE 2-15
Growth rate during 1951-61 and 1961-71
in the States

Sl. No.	India/State	Percentage increase in population during	
		1951—61	1961—71
1	2	3	4
	INDIA	21.51	24.80
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.65	20.90
2.	Assam	34.99	34.71
3.	Bihar	19.76	21.33
4.	Gujarat	26.88	29.39
5.	Haryana	33.79	32.23
6.	Himachal Pradesh	17.87	23.04
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	9.44	29.65
8.	Kerala	24.76	26.29
9.	Madhya Pradesh	24.17	28.67
10.	Maharashtra	23.60	27.45
11.	Manipur	35.04	37.53
12.	Meghalaya	27.03	31.50
13.	Mysore	21.57	24.22
14.	Nagaland	14.07	39.88
15.	Orissa	19.82	25.05
16.	Punjab	21.56	21.70
17.	Rajasthan	26.20	27.83
18.	Sikkim	17.76	29.38
19.	Tamil Nadu	11.85	22.30
20.	Tripura	78.71	36.28
21.	Uttar Pradesh	16.66	19.78
22.	West Bengal	32.80	26.87

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TABLE 2-16
Growth Rate in the Districts

State/District	Growth rate	
	1951—61	1961—71
1	2	3
TAMIL NADU	11.85	22.30
1. Madras	22.11	42.81
2. Chengalpattu	12.17	32.38
3. North Arcot	8.51	19.37
4. South Arcot	9.77	18.69
5. Dharmapuri	22.05	25.94
6. Salem	8.44	21.07
7. Coimbatore	12.78	22.93
8. Nilgiris	31.30	20.70
9. Madurai	11.05	22.63
10. Tiruchirapalli	8.36	20.65
11. Thanjavur	8.82	18.33
12. Ramanathapuram	16.33	18.11
13. Tirunelveli	8.99	17.22
14. Kanniyakumari	20.64	22.63

CHAPTER III

Village dwellers and Town dwellers

India is predominantly a rural country. Only 20 per cent of her population live in towns and cities. In other words four out of every five Indians is a rural man or woman. In our State, out of 41,199,168 persons, 28,734,334 (i.e. 69.7 per cent) live in rural areas and 12,464,834 are in urban areas. We may, therefore, say that nearly every third person in Tamil Nadu is a town dweller.

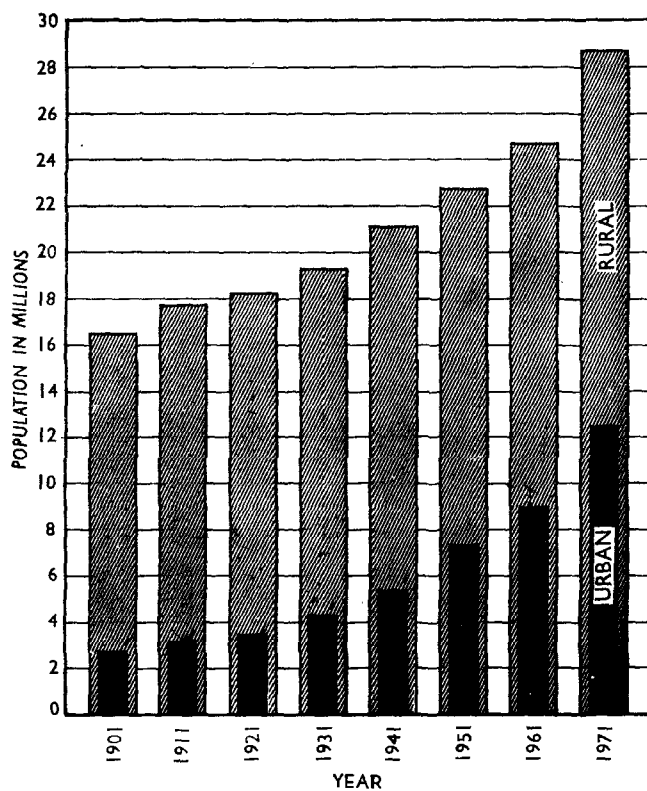
At every census the population of each State is divided into rural and urban. Population statistics are compiled separately for these areas. Census statistics of the urban and rural population have many important uses. What constitutes an urban area is based on certain criteria adopted at each census.

In the 1971 census, in addition to places with a Municipality, Corporation or Cantonment or notified town area, places which satisfied the following criteria are called urban :— (a) a minimum population of 5,000, (b) at least 75 per cent of male working population is non-agricultural and (c) a density of population of at least 400 per km².

The Director of census of each State was given some discretion in respect of few marginal cases in consultation with the State Governments to include some places that have other distinct urban characteristics and to exclude any undeserving cases.

The census definition of a rural area is a negative one : If a place is not urban, it is *ipso facto* rural. It was from the 1961 census that such a definition of an urban area was adopted. The different criteria adopted from time to time prior

POPULATION IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS 1901 - 1971



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to 1961 census have given rise to the problem of comparability of data. This fact has to be borne in mind while analysing urban statistics. While fixing the number of towns in Tamil Nadu for 1971 census according to the criteria laid down, the District Collectors and the State Government were consulted. As a result, the number of towns in Tamil Nadu comes to 439 in 1971, as against 339 in 1961.

Urbanisation in Tamil Nadu :

The percentage of urban population in Tamil Nadu has risen from 14.2 in 1901 to 30.3 in 1971. In 1911 it was 15.1 ; in 1921, 15.9 ; in 1931, 18.0 ; in 1941, 19.7 ; in 1951, 24.4 and in 1961, 26.7. From 1941 onwards, the urban population has grown considerably. During 1941—51 the urban population increased by 41.8 per cent whereas, the general population increased by 14.7 per cent. During 1951—61 the urban population went up by 22.6 per cent as against 11.9 per cent for general population. During the last decade, i.e. 1961—71, the urban population rose by 38.6 per cent and total population by 22.3 per cent.

The facts of urban growth in the State raise the question : What are the components of change, from one census to the next, in the number of people who are classified as urban ? The four possible components are mentioned below. It is the individual and collective influence of these factors which give rise to an increase in urban population composition from decade to decade.

1. Natural increase
2. Migration : the net migration between rural and urban areas
3. Administrative annexation : administrative inclusion of rural territory in urban place.
4. Change in the definition of urban population

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Let us now compare urbanisation in Tamil Nadu with that in India as a whole, and rest of the States. During 1951—61 the percentage of urban population to total population rose from 17.3 to 18.0 at all India level whereas, the corresponding percentage for Tamil Nadu, as we have already seen, were 24.4 and 26.7. In the decade 1961—71 the percentage moved to 19.9 in India and to 30.3 in Tamil Nadu. Table 3-1 gives the percentage of urban population in the country and all States and Union Territories in 1961 and 1971.

Maharashtra which is slightly more urbanised (31.17 per cent) than Tamil Nadu (30.26 per cent) stands foremost amongst the States in the matter of urbanisation. Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Assam, Bihar and Nagaland have not yet been affected by the wave of urbanisation whereas the industrial States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, West Bengal and Mysore are at the crest. That industrialisation and industrial cities contribute much towards urbanisation is evident from these figures. Among the Union Territories, Chandigarh (90.6 per cent) and Delhi (89.7 per cent) are predominantly urban areas.

Number of villages :

The basic administrative unit in the rural area is the revenue village. In the 1971 census, data have been compiled for this basic unit. A revenue village is a group of hamlets, interspersed by fields, waste lands, ditches or jungles. It may consist of a large number of hamlets of varying sizes with a point of central interest linking them together. The revenue village is a compact unit of administration for purposes of revenue collection.

In 1971, there are 16,660 revenue villages in Tamil Nadu of which 925 are found to be uninhabited. The latter include forest units (treated as villages for other purposes) which are not included in revenue villages and which do not have any

population. Table 3-2 gives the number of inhabited and uninhabited villages in each district of the State.

The villages differ in area as well as population content. Table 3-3 shows the number of villages in different size classes. About 29 per cent of villages are in the size class 1,000-1,999 and 25 per cent in the size class 2,000-4,999. Thus 54 per cent of the villages of Tamil Nadu have population ranging from 1,000 to 4,999. The villages in this range contain 64 per cent of the rural population.

In Kanniyakumari district which formed part of former Travancore-Cochin State, there are only a few small sized villages. 42 out of 66 villages (i.e. 64 per cent) are each having a population of more than 10,000. In this district 88.4 per cent of the rural population are in villages having more than a population of 10,000.

The average number of persons per inhabited village in the State is 1,826. The average size varies from 1,067 in Chengalpattu district to 15,426 in Kanniyakumari district as may be seen from Table 3-2. In Kerala, the average population size of a village is 14,102. It is 1,290 for Andhra Pradesh, 428 for Orissa and 190 for Himachal Pradesh.

The decadal variations in the population of rural Tamil Nadu since 1901 are presented in Table 3-4. The rural population has been increasing steadily but the percentage increase of rural population from decade to decade is far less than the corresponding percentage in respect of urban population.

Urbanisation in the districts :

Let us now study the degree of urbanisation in the districts of Tamil Nadu. As we have already seen, 30.3 per cent of the population of Tamil Nadu are classified as urban. Among the fourteen districts, Madras City, the headquarters of the State, is completely urban. The hill district of Nilgiris

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has 49.2 per cent of its population living in urban areas. The degree of urbanisation is least in Dharmapuri district where the urban population constitutes only 8.6 per cent of the total population. Kanniyakumari (16.72 per cent) and South Arcot (14.18 per cent) are two other districts where urbanisation has not made much headway. In the following districts, the percentage of urban population differs from the percentage of urban population in the State as a whole, by less than ten points (plus or minus). The figures in the brackets indicate the percentage of urban population : Coimbatore (35.6), Chengalpattu (34.8), Madurai (33.6), Tirunelveli (32.2), Salem (26.6), Ramanathapuram (26.1), Tiruchirapalli (22.3), North Arcot (20.9) and Thanjavur (20.5). Coimbatore is an industrial district. Within the district of Chengalpattu fall many suburban areas of Madras city which have several industries. These account for a fairly high degree of urbanisation of these two districts.

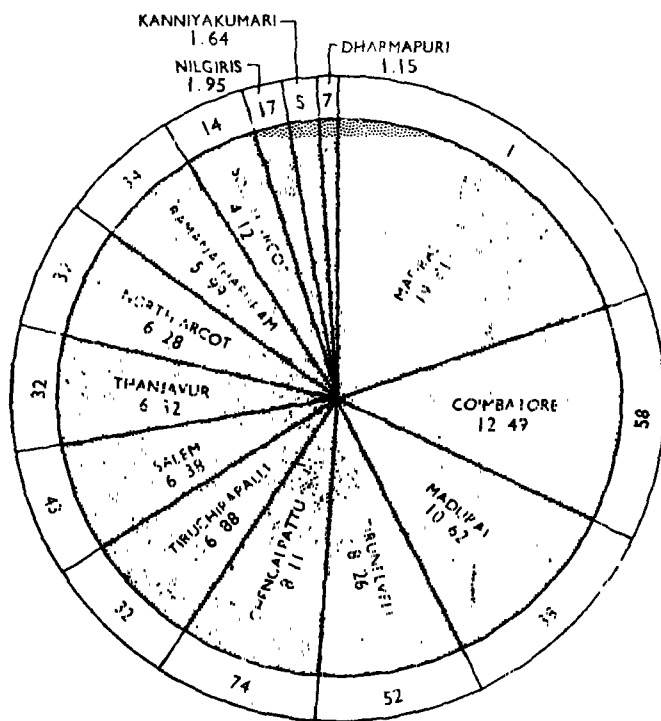
Out of 133 taluks and sub-taluks in the thirteen districts of the State, there are 13 taluks/sub-taluks which do not possess a single unit which can be called urban. Consequently these 13 taluks/sub-taluks have no urban population at all. In the following taluks, the percentage of urban population is more than 75 per cent :—Madurai South (89.5 per cent), Tuticorin (80.6 per cent), Saidapet (79.0 per cent) and Coimbatore (75.1 per cent). Except Saidapet, the other three taluks contain Class I cities. Saidapet taluk is close to Madras city.

Size class of town :

The towns are classified as follows based on their population.

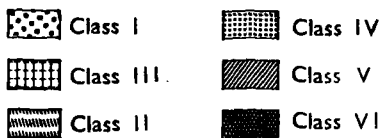
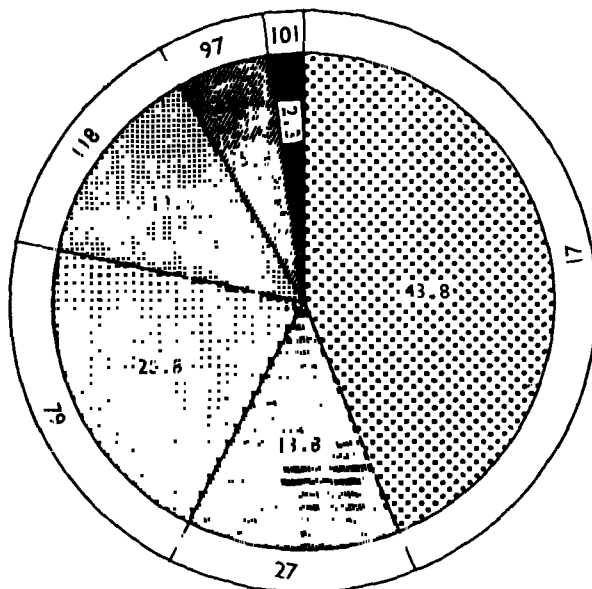
Class	Population size
Class I (cities)	100,000 and above
Class II	50,000 to 99,999
Class III	20,000 to 49,999
Class IV	10,000 to 19,999
Class V	5,000 to 9,999
Class VI	Less than 5,000

DISTRIBUTION OF URBAN POPULATION IN DISTRICTS 1971



The percentage of urban population is given in the shaded portions and the number of towns in the outer circle

POPULATION OF TOWNS IN SIX SIZE CLASSES 1971



The Number of towns in each class is shown in the outer circle and the Percentage of Urban Population in each class is given within the shaded portions

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There are 2,643 urban units in India of which 148 (5.6 per cent) are Class I towns called cities. These cities alone contain 56 per cent of the urban population in the country. Table 3-5 gives the number of towns and the percentage of urban population in each class for India.

As already mentioned, there are 439 towns in Tamil Nadu in 1971. In 1901 there were only 131 towns in the State. Table 3-6 gives the number of towns during 1901—71 in each size class. Out of 439 towns 118 are in the size class 10,000 to 19,999. 101 towns have each a population less than 5,000. In the size class 5,000 to 9,999 there are 97 towns. 79 towns fall in the size class 20,000 to 49,999. Thus 395 out of 439 towns i.e., 90 per cent of the towns in the State, have each a population less than 50,000. There are 27 towns (6 per cent) in the range 50,000 to 99,999 and 17 (4 per cent) have each a population exceeding one lakh.

The reader may refer to Table A-IV in our volume Part II-A (General Population Tables) if he wants to know the population of each of the towns with variation since 1901. The percentage of population living in towns of 20,000 and more inhabitants is another customary index of urbanisation. This percentage has increased impressively from 8.2 in 1901 to 23.7 in 1971 in Tamil Nadu (vide Table 3-7).

Proportion of urban population in each size class :

The population accounted for by each size class and its proportion to total urban population in Tamil Nadu in 1971 are as shown in Table 3-8. Towns belonging to Class III to Class VI, i.e. those having less than a population of 50,000, though constituting 90 per cent of the towns, account for only 42.4 per cent of the urban population.

Growth rate of urban population by size class of towns :

During 1961—71 the urban population of the State has increased by 38.6 per cent. The rate of growth of population

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varies from town to town. This is due to a variety of reasons. Some towns advance industrially and some attract more population owing to commercial importance. The population in district or taluk headquarters keeps growing fastly. Some tourist resorts and pilgrim centres get thickly populated. The population in Courtallam, a health and tourist resort and Rameswaram, a great pilgrim centre of India, has increased by over 100 per cent during 1961—71.

The towns around Madras like Avadi and Alandur have registered an increase of over 50 per cent owing to increased industrial activities and sub-urbanisation. The percentage increase in population during the past decade in Madras City and in the three cities in Coimbatore district, namely Erode, Tiruppur and Singanallur is more than that of the State average. The reason for the highest percentage increase of 69.19 per cent in Singanallur is due to addition of more area within this municipality.

We will now analyse the growth rate of towns in each class : The number of cities which are categorised as Class I towns (population 100,000 and above) has increased from 3 in 1901 to 17 in 1971.

The three cities according to the census of 1901 were Madras, Tiruchirapalli and Madurai. Till 1921 these were the only cities in Tamil Nadu. In 1931, Salem became a city when its population crossed the one lakh mark. In 1941 the number of cities became 5 with Coimbatore joining this category. In 1951, Vellore and Thanjavur became Class I towns. In 1961 the nine cities were : Madras, Vellore, Salem, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai, Tuticorin and Nagercoil. In 1971 there are 17 cities ; the towns which attained this status during 1961—71 are : Kanchipuram, Cuddalore, Tiruppur, Singanallur, Erode, Dindigul, Kumbakonam and Tirunelveli.

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The number of towns with their population in each class from 1901 to 1971 are furnished in Table 3-9. The growth rate from decade to decade in each class of town is also shown in the same table.

The increase in population during 1961—71 in Class VI is 159.4 per cent. The net addition of 65 towns in this category in 1971 accounts for this to a certain extent. In the case of Class I also the percentage increase is 60.84 owing to the addition of 8 cities in 1971.

Class I cities :

Let us now briefly study the trend of the population growth in some of the important Class I cities.

Madras City :

The capital city of the State with a population of 2,469,449 is also the first and foremost Class I city in the State in respect of population. It is the fourth most populous city in the country—the first three being Greater Bombay (5,970,575), Delhi [3,287,883 (M.C.)] and Calcutta [3,148,746 (M.C.)]

The growth of the city in status and stature is closely linked in the past with the expansion of British Commercial enterprise. The city has been occupying a key position in the commercial map of the world. The area of the city has grown very gradually. It was 29 sq. miles in 1891 and today it is 49 sq. miles or 128 km². Due to large scale migration from rural areas, the total population has risen from 5.4 lakhs in 1901 to 24.7 lakhs in 1971. During 1941—51, the growth has been 65.34 per cent since the city area increased from 30 to 49 sq. miles owing to inclusion of some places like Saidapet. The city has registered a growth of 42.81 per cent during 1961—71 as against 22.11 per cent during the previous decade.

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The city has practically expanded beyond the statutory limits owing to large scale industrialisation and residential colonies coming up in suburban areas. The Madras urban agglomeration which consists of the core city and 57 neighbouring towns like Avadi, Ambattur etc. has a population of 3,169,930.

Salem :

As early as 1931, Salem became a Class I city with a population of 102,179. This city is noted for handloom industry. Dhoties, towels etc. produced here are popular. Silk weaving is also done on a large scale. During 1961—71 the percentage of increase of the population of Salem is 23.9. The magnesite industry employs large number of people. The population of the city is bound to grow further when the proposed Salem Steel Plant comes into being.

Coimbatore :

Coimbatore which is known as the “Manchester of the South” is a leading centre for textile industries. The city attained the Class I status in 1941 when its population was 130,348. The population of the city has increased by 24.47 per cent during 1961-71 as against 44.78 per cent in 1951-61. With a population of 356,368 in 1971, Coimbatore is the third largest city in the state. Singanallur, close to Coimbatore city, was a panchayat in 1961 with a population of 24,674. In 1971 it is a municipality with an extended area. Singanallur is but an extension of Coimbatore and has got a number of textile mills and is a beehive of industrial activity.

Madurai :

Madurai is the second biggest city in the State next only to Madras. In area, Madurai occupies the seventh place among Class I cities. As regards density of population Madurai stands first among those cities. Madurai is a city with a

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glorious past and has been a great centre of Dravidian culture and civilisation. It is an important textile and dyeing centre. This city is also noted for its grand temple. Madurai was constituted into a municipality in 1865. Today it is a Corporation like Madras. Even as early as 1901, the population of Madurai city was 105,984. It crossed the three lakh mark in 1951 when its population was 361,781. In 1961 its population was 424,810. Beyond the city limits, well planned townships have been coming up for some time past.

Tiruchirapalli :

Tiruchirapalli which has been a Class I city from 1901 onwards has a population of 307,400 now. The city has registered a population increase of 23.03 per cent during the decade 1961—71 as against 14.13 per cent during 1951—61.

Thanks to its strategic location, the city plays a vital role in the economy of the State. The Tiruchirapalli railway junction holds a prominent place in the history of railways. A Boiler Plant and an Ordnance factory are functioning in Tiruverumbur near Tiruchirapalli. A Regional Engineering College has been located in the city which has some noted educational institutions.

Growth of towns and their functional characteristics :

It is customary to pinpoint the importance of a town on the basis of the main activity or function of a sizeable proportion of the population. For instance, the very mention of the name Kanchipuram brings before our mind's eye the colourful silk fabrics and the popular Kanchipuram saree. Coimbatore is noted for its textile mills. One cannot think of Thanjavur without its rice mills which process the paddy flowing into them from the fertile fields around it.

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The percentage of workers in the broad types of economic activity to total workers may be used as the index. We have classified the population according to industrial categories. We may regroup them into five broad economic activities as follows : (1) Primary activities (cultivation, agricultural labour, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations and orchards and allied activities and mining and quarrying) i.e. Census Industrial Categories I, II, III and IV. (2) Industry (manufacturing, construction and allied activities) i.e. Industrial Categories V and VI. (3) Trade and Commerce, i.e. Industrial Category VII. (4) Transport, Storage and Communications i.e. Industrial Category VIII and (5) Services i.e. Industrial Category IX.

In one town, namely Aravancode there is a Cordite Factory. Out of the 438 towns in the State (excluding this town) 261 have single functional characteristic, 81 towns have bi-functional characteristics and 96 have multi-functional characteristics.

Urban agglomeration :

A new concept called urban agglomeration was introduced in the 1971 census. Any city or town develops a suburban area with housing colonies, university campuses, industrial units, port areas, military camps etc. To cite examples, Ambattur, Avadi, Pallavapuram, Tiruvanmiyur etc. are places which for all practical purposes are parts of Madras City. But they fall outside the city limit and are outgrowths of the core city of Madras. In 1971 census it is decided to treat the continuous spread including such outgrowths as an integrated urban area called urban agglomeration.

Urban agglomeration in Tamil Nadu :

Thirty-two urban agglomerations were formed for the 1971 census. Of these, 12 are city agglomerations. These 12 city agglomerations include 13 Class I cities. The town agglomeration

merations, each accounting for a population of less than one lakh, number 20. The details of constituent units and population covered by the city and town agglomerations are given in Table 3-10.

Table A-IV presented in our volume on General Population Tables (Part II-A) gives among other things, area and sex-wise population of the urban agglomerations.

Standard urban area :

The Standard Urban Area (SUA) is another new concept adopted in the 1971 census. The urban agglomeration, we have already seen, is a contiguous urban spread with well recognised urban characteristics around a core city. It is likely to change from census to census if the boundaries of the core town or constituent units change. Not so the Standard Urban Area which is the projected area of a city or a big town of a population of 50,000 and above as it would be three decades later (that is in 1991).

While evolving the Standard Urban Areas we take into account not only the towns and villages which will get merged into the core city, but also the intervening areas which are potentially urban. Thus the limit of the Standard Urban Area spreads beyond the agglomeration and marks the limit upto which continuous urbanisation is reasonably expected to take place in the next three decades. It is considered desirable to have comparable statistical data for such an area which will be of great use in urban development planning. Statistical data will be compiled for the Standard Urban Area during three successive censuses irrespective of the changes in the limits of the local administrative units within them.

Keeping in view the spirit of the definition of the Standard Urban Area, thirty-two Standard Urban Areas have been formed in our State in consultation with the Town Planning

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authorities. Five out of these thirty-two have each a population of more than five lakhs according to 1971 census. These are : Madras City, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Salem. 14 units have a population ranging from 50,000 to one lakh ; 10 units have a population between one and two lakhs ; 3 units have population between 2 and 5 lakhs.

The names of all Standard Urban Areas together with the number of constituent units and population are given in Table 3-11. The data relating to the Standard Urban Areas are presented in Table A-V in our volume on General Population Tables (Part II-A—Supplement).

The importance of compilation and presentation of census data rural-urban wise should be apparent from the foregoing discussion. There is considerable difference in the mode of living and outlook between the rural and urban societies and this gives rise to rural-urban differential in the population characteristics such as sex ratio, age structure, literacy, language and religion. In the subsequent chapters dealing with the different aspects of the population this differential will be brought out.

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TABLE 3-1

Percentage of Urban Population to Total
Population in India and States

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	Percentage of urban population to total population	
		1961	1971
1	2	3	4
	INDIA	17.97	19.91
	<i>States:</i>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17.44	19.31
2.	Assam*	7.16	8.87
3.	Bihar	8.43	10.00
4.	Gujarat	25.77	28.08
5.	Haryana	17.23	17.66
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6.34	6.99
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	16.66	18.59
8.	Kerala	15.11	16.24
9.	Madhya Pradesh	14.29	16.29
10.	Maharashtra	28.22	31.17
11.	Manipur	8.68	13.19
12.	Meghalaya	15.27	14.55
13.	Mysore	22.33	24.31
14.	Nagaland	5.19	9.95
15.	Orissa	6.32	8.41
16.	Punjab	23.06	23.73
17.	Rajasthan	16.28	17.63
18.	Sikkim	4.22	9.37
19.	Tamil Nad	26.69	30.26
20.	Tripura	9.02	10.43
21.	Uttar Pradesh	12.85	14.02
22.	West Bengal	24.45	24.75
	<i>Union Territories:</i>		
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	22.15	22.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	..	3.70
3.	Chandigarh	82.80	90.55
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	..	..
5.	Delhi	88.75	89.70
6.	Goa, Daman and Diu	16.06	26.44
8.	Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands	..	..
8.	Pondicherry	24.11	42.04

*Includes Mizo district now constituted as a separate Union Territory of Mizoram.

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TABLE 3-2

Number of Villages (Inhabited and Uninhabited)
and the Average Number of persons per Inhabited
Village in the State and Districts

Sl. No.	State/District	No. of villages		Average No. of persons per in- habited village
		Inhabited	Uninha- bited	
1	2	3	4	5
	TAMIL NADU	15,735	925	1,826
1.	Chengalpattu	1,778	52	1,067
2.	North Arcot	1,867	99	1,592
3.	South Arcot	2,333	81	1,331
4.	Dharmapuri	1,044	152	1,469
5.	Salem	958	72	2,294
6.	Coimbatore	932	12	3,022
7.	Nilgiris	42	..	5,971
8.	Madurai	1,013	102	2,580
9.	Tiruchirapalli	1,314	104	2,277
10.	Thanjavur	2,002	40	1,525
11.	Ramanathapuram	1,411	121	1,498
12.	Tirunelveli	975	76	2,227
13.	Kanniyakumari	66	14	15,426

TABLE 3-3
Number of Villages in Different size Classes of Population, 1971

Sl. No.	State/District	Total No. of inhabited villages	Number of villages in the population size							
			Less than 200	200—499	500—999	1,000—1,999	2,000—4,999	5,000—9,999	10,000 and above	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TAMIL NADU										
1.	Chengalpattu	15,735	988	1,981	3,425	4,547	3,902	752	140	
2.	North Arcot	1,778	180	414	548	400	213	21	2	
3.	South Arcot	1,867	73	208	483	620	422	57	4	
4.	Dharmapuri	2,333	124	319	681	778	399	28	4	
5.	Salem	1,044	131	196	206	203	285	23	..	
6.	Coimbatore	958	51	124	147	208	328	90	10	
7.	Nilgiris	932	23	50	110	211	371	147	20	
8.	Madurai	42	1	3	4	3	8	16	7	
9.	Tiruchirappalli	1,013	79	109	139	225	317	117	27	
10.	Thanjavur	1,314	56	84	178	359	545	88	4	
11.	Ramanathapuram	2,002	113	211	446	758	432	41	1	
12.	Tirunelveli	1,411	98	178	326	488	278	37	6	
13.	Kanniyakumari	975	58	85	156	290	298	75	13	
		66	1	..	1	4	6	12	42	

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TABLE 3-4
Percentage Variation in Rural Population, 1901-1971

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1	2	3	4
1901 . . .	16,527,849	..	..
1911 . . .	17,753,479	+1,225,630	+7.42
1921 . . .	18,200,439	+446,960	+2.52
1931 . . .	19,241,717	+1,041,278	+5.72
1941 . . .	21,093,825	+1,852,108	+9.63
1951 . . .	22,785,522	+1,691,697	+8.02
1961 . . .	24,696,425	+1,910,903	+8.39
1971 . . .	28,734,334	+4,037,909	+16.35

TABLE 3-5
Number of Towns and the Percentage of Urban Population in each Class for India

Size class of urban units	Number of urban units	Percentage of population to total urban population of India in 1971
1	2	3
All classes	2,643	100
I	148	56
II	183	11
III	582	16
IV	874	11
V	678	5
VI	178	1

NOTE:— Urban agglomeration has been taken as single unit and the constituent units have not been taken into consideration individually.

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TABLE 3-6
Number of Towns under each Class in Tamil Nadu, 1901-1971

Year	Number of towns under each size class						
	I to VI	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1901 . .	131*	3	6	17	56	47	2
1911 . .	160*	3	6	22	59	63	7
1921 . .	187*	3	9	20	65	74	16
1931 . .	220*	4	9	29	69	95	14
1941 . .	255*	5	10	33	83	108	16
1951 . .	297	7	11	56	99	97	27
1961 . .	339	9	19	61	119	95	36
1971 . .	439	17	27	79	118	97	101

*Excludes the towns of Sembiam and Saidapet in their respective classes which have merged with Madras Corporation.

TABLE 3-7
Percentage of Population living in towns of 20,000 and more inhabitants from 1901 to 1971 in Tamil Nadu

Year	Population of towns with 20,000 and more	Total Population	Percentage
1	2	3	4
1901	1,584,335	19,252,630	8.23
1911	1,809,171	20,902,616	8.66
1921	1,896,955	21,628,518	8.77
1931	2,527,438	23,472,099	10.77
1941	3,115,683	26,267,507	11.86
1951	5,121,648	30,119,047	17.00
1961	6,541,364	33,686,953	19.42
1971	9,777,778	41,199,168	23.73

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 3-8

Number of Towns and the Percentage of Urban Population in each Class for Tamil Nadu. 1971

Size class of urban units	Number of urban units	Urban Population	Percentage of population to total urban population
1	2	3	4
All Classes	439	12,464,834	100.00
I	17	5,459,942	43.80
II	27	1,717,651	13.78
III	79	2,600,185	20.86
IV	118	1,683,993	13.51
V	97	717,820	5.76
VI	101	285,243	2.29

TABLE 3-9
Number of Towns with their Population in each Class and the Percentage
Decade Variation from 1901-1971

Year	Total Urban Population				Class I			Class II		
	No. of towns	Population	Percent- age de- cade va- riation		No. of towns	Population	Percent- age de- cade va- riation	No. of towns	Population	Percent- age de- cade va- riation
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10
1901	131	2,724,781	..		3	751,872	..	6	350,650	..
1911	160	3,149,137	15.57		3	813,262	8.16	6	354,747	1.17
1921	187	3,428,079	8.86		3	837,866	3.03	9	508,557	43.36
1931	220	4,230,382	23.40		4	1,140,434	36.11	9	575,447	13.15
1941	255	5,173,682	22.30		5	1,515,213	32.86	10	639,637	11.15
1951	297	7,333,525	47.75		7	2,603,552	71.83	11	804,294	25.74
1961	339	8,990,528	22.59		9	3,394,541	30.38	19	1,272,589	58.22
1971	439	12,464,834	38.64		17	5,459,942	60.84	27	1,717,651	34.97

TABLE 3-9 (Contd.)
Number of Towns with their Population in each Class and the Percentage
Decade Variation from 1901—1971

Year	Class III				Class IV				Class V				Class VI			
	No. of towns	Population	Per- cent- age decade vari- ation	No. of towns	Population	Per- cent- age decade vari- ation	No. of towns	Population	Per- cent- age decade vari- ation	No. of towns	Population	Per- cent- age decade vari- ation	No. of towns	Population	Per- cent- age decade vari- ation	
1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
1901.	17	481,813	..	56	780,216	..	47	353,351	..	2	6,879	..				
1911.	22	641,162	33.07	59	827,490	6.06	63	483,475	36.83	7	29,001	321.59				
1921.	20	550,532	-14.14	65	900,114	8.78	74	566,135	17.10	16	64,875	123.70				
1931.	29	811,557	47.41	69	938,760	4.29	95	713,656	26.06	14	50,528	-22.11				
1941.	33	960,833	18.39	83	1,174,809	25.14	108	823,654	15.41	16	59,536	17.83				
1951.	56	1,713,802	78.37	99	1,364,491	16.15	97	746,420	-9.38	27	100,966	69.59				
1961.	61	1,874,234	9.36	119	1,624,376	19.05	95	714,812	-4.23	36	109,976	8.92				
1971.	79	2,600,185	38.73	118	1,683,993	3.67	97	717,820	0.42	101	285,243	159.37				

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TABLE 3-10

Urban Agglomerations, their Constituent
Units and Population

Sl. No.	Name of urban agglomeration	Total No. of urban units in the aggro- meration	Population of aggro- meration	Population of core town only
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Madras	58	3,169,930	2,469,449
2.	Coimbatore	23	736,203	356,368
3.	Madurai	15	711,501	549,114
4.	Tiruchirapalli	9	464,624	307,400
5.	Salem	18	416,440	308,716
6.	Tirunelveli	11	266,688	108,498
7.	Tuticorin	10	181,913	155,310
8.	Vellore	7	178,554	139,082
9.	Erode	5	169,613	105,111
10.	Tiruppur	6	151,127	113,302
11.	Kanchipuram	4	119,693	110,657
12.	Kumbakonam	2	119,655	113,130
13.	Pollachi	6	93,838	68,655
14.	Karaikudi	7	88,371	55,449
15.	Arcot	3	75,911	30,230
16.	Nagapattinam	3	74,019	68,026
17.	Coonoor	6	70,813	38,007
18.	Gudiyatham	3	67,966	63,007
19.	Sivakasi	2	60,753	44,883
20.	Vaniyambadi	3	57,686	51,810
21.	Chidambaram	2	57,658	48,811
22.	Bhavani	3	56,696	23,114
23.	Tiruchendur	3	55,636	18,126
24.	Palani	2	51,664	49,575
25.	Ambasamudram	2	49,255	27,709
26.	Devarshola	2	26,890	13,622
27.	Mallasamudram	5	26,373	10,302
28.	Kotagiri	2	25,194	18,909
29.	Naduvattam	2	15,371	10,568
30.	Thondi	2	11,294	7,050
31.	Mallur	2	9,501	6,896
32.	Vembadiithalam	2	4,932	3,735

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TABLE 3-11

Standard Urban Areas with the Number of Constituent Units and Population

Sl. No.	Name of Standard Urban Area	No. of units			Population in 1971
		Total	Rural	Urban	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Madras	271	213	58	3,476,191
2.	Coimbatore	48	25	23	856,312
3.	Madurai	132	117	15	850,349
4.	Tiruchirapalli	51	41	10	584,149
5.	Salem	79	58	21	568,984
6.	Tirunelveli	35	24	11	286,341
7.	Nagercoil	12	10	2	254,553
8.	Vellore	22	15	7	235,124
9.	Tuticorin	13	3	10	185,457
10.	Tiruppur	14	8	6	178,202
11.	Erode	7	2	5	176,449
12.	Thanjavur	4	3	1	157,641
13.	Dindigul	7	6	1	156,326
14.	Kumbakonam	14	12	2	150,619
15.	Kanchipuram	25	21	4	131,145
16.	Cuddalore	20	19	1	125,496
17.	Karaikudi	30	23	7	110,556
18.	Rajapalayam	11	9	2	100,475
19.	Nagapattinam	13	10	3	98,733
20.	Pollachi	9	3	6	98,294
21.	Arcot, Ranipet, Walajapet	12	9	3	88,011
22.	Karur	7	6	1	85,889
23.	Virudhunagar	14	13	1	78,707
24.	Aruppukkottai	10	9	1	74,483
25.	Pudukottai	7	6	1	73,739
26.	Gudiyatham	7	4	3	71,127
27.	Ootacamund	2	1	1	70,699
28.	Bodinayakanur	4	3	1	68,597
29.	Mayuram	2	1	1	64,284
30.	Tiruvannamalai	1	..	1	61,370
31.	Villupuram	1	..	1	60,242
32.	Srivilliputhur	1	..	1	53,855

CHAPTER IV

SECTION—I

Are the number of men and women balanced ?

Given the population of a country or state, one will be interested to know almost immediately how many are males and how many females. The most common measure used to show the balance of the sexes in a population is the sex ratio. In the Indian census the sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1,000 males. In many of the countries of the world the sex ratio is expressed as the number of males per hundred females. We will be adopting the Indian concept in the present discussion.

In a population with an equal number of males and females the sex ratio is 1,000. When there are more males than females, the sex ratio will be less than 1,000. It will be more than 1,000 if there are more females than males in a population. The relative figure like the sex ratio is highly useful, since it enables us to make a direct comparison of the sex composition of different population groups.

The sex ratio has a bearing on the social and economic conditions of a community. Demographically significant is an unbalanced number of males and females at marriageable ages that creates problems. This imbalance is directly related to the growth rate of population.

Sex ratios in developed countries and developing countries :

Demographers have found that the sex ratio at birth is stabilised more or less universally around 952. In other words 952 live girls are born for every 1,000 live boys born. Western demographers may state the same fact as 105 live boys are born for every 100 live girls born.

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The sex ratio at birth being a natural phenomenon, is almost the same everywhere in the world. But the sex ratio of the population as a whole, differs from region to region, country to country. Generally the sex ratio in the developing countries is low and that of economically developed countries is high. In India the sex ratio is 930 according to the 1971 census. For Tamil Nadu it is 978. In U.K., U.S.A., and U.S.S.R., the sex ratios are 1,060, 1,054 and 1,170 respectively. In Japan it is 1,037.

Why do advanced countries have a high sex ratio? In these countries the birth rate is moderate to low, the maternal death rate is low, the female babies are as well cared for as male babies and the male death rates are higher than the female death rates at every age. The initial numerical excess of the males is progressively reduced until in older ages females outnumber males.

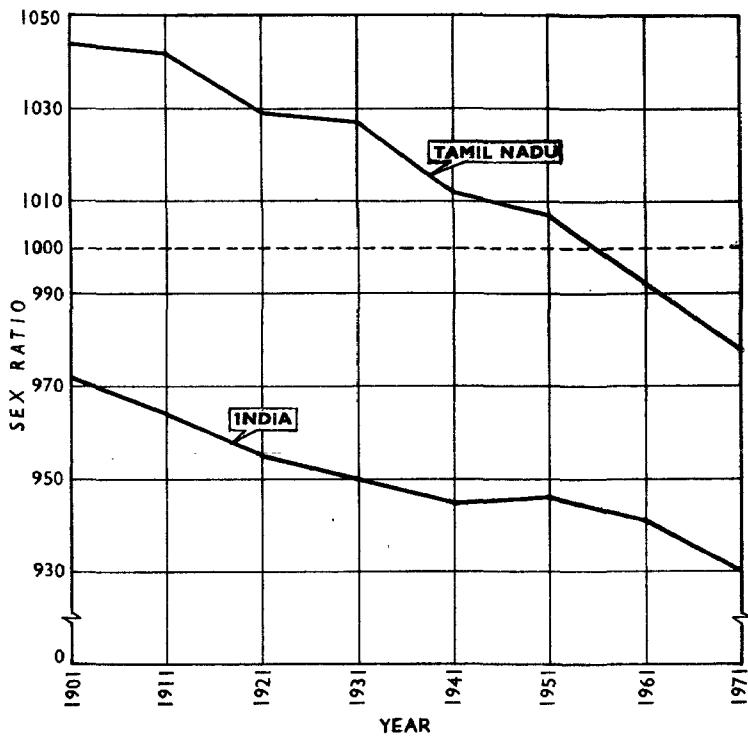
Sex ratios in other States :

Table 4-1 gives the sex ratios in the different States and Union Territories in our country. The sex ratios in Indian cities with a population of a million and more are also shown in the same Table. Among the States, only Kerala has a preponderance of females—there are 1,016 females for 1,000 males. Dadra and Nagar Haveli, a small Union Territory with a population of 74,170 has a sex ratio of 1,007. Barring these two areas, all the States and Union Territories in our country have a sex ratio of less than 1,000. Among the States, Orissa comes second with a sex ratio of 988. Hyderabad has the highest sex ratio of 928 among the nine cities with more than one million population in India. Calcutta's sex ratio is the lowest (636).

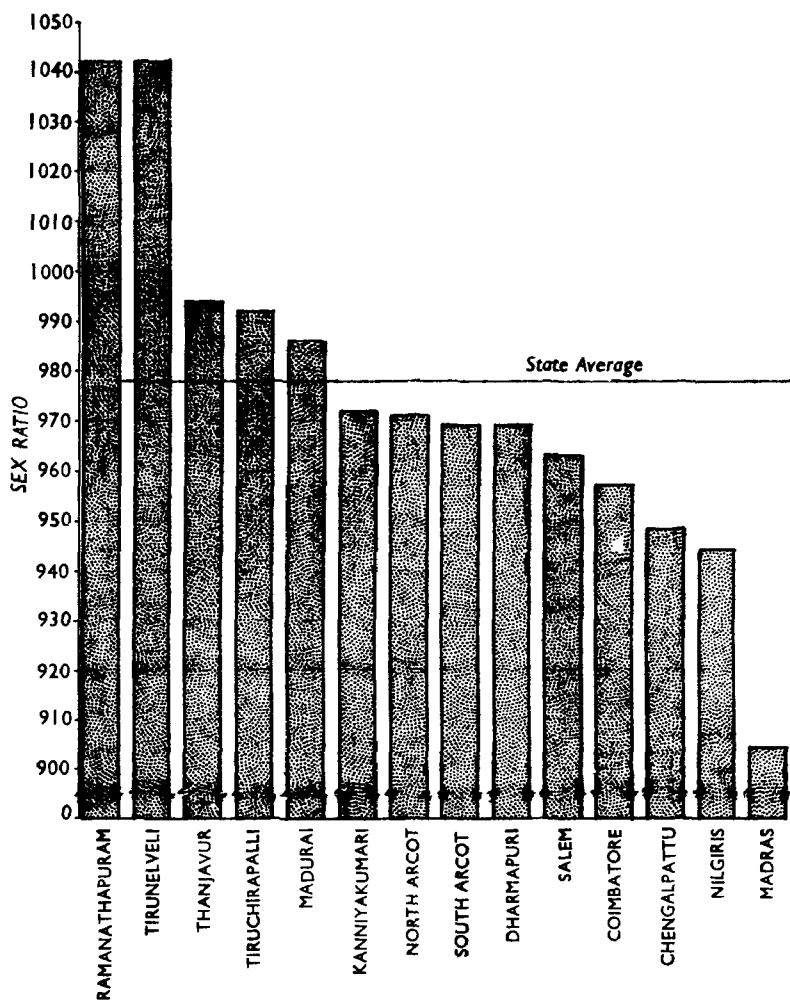
Trends in sex ratio in Tamil Nadu :

The sex ratio in Tamil Nadu was 1,044 in 1901, 1,042 in 1911, 1,029 in 1921, 1,027 in 1931, 1,012 in 1941, 1,007 in 1951, 922 in 1961 and 978 in 1971. Thus the sex ratio

SEX RATIO FOR INDIA AND TAMIL NADU 1901-1971



SEX RATIO IN THE DISTRICTS 1971



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has gradually come down in the State from 1,044 to 978 during the period 1901—71. The sex ratio in the country as a whole, has declined gradually from 972 in 1901 (excluding Pondicherry) to 930 in 1971. It was 941 in 1961 and 946 in 1951.

In Table 4-2, the sex ratios in the districts are shown. Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts have the highest sex ratio of 1,042. Madras City which is wholly urban has the least sex ratio of 904. In Table 4-3, the sex ratios in the taluks are given. It is observed that in Mayuram taluk of Thanjavur district where the male and female populations are respectively 207,850 and 207,817 the sex ratio, when rounded off, comes to 1,000.

Rural urban differential :

Migration of population from one area to another which is selective of sex and age has a bearing on the sex ratio of the two areas. Since males, particularly the youth, are more mobile than females, the sex ratio of sending areas tends to be high and that of receiving areas low. The consistent drift of population from rural to urban in developing countries in modern times results in the sex ratio in urban areas being lower than that in rural areas. Our country is no exception to this rule. In the rural areas of India, the sex ratio is 949 and in urban areas 858.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, the sex ratio is 990 in rural areas and 951 in urban areas. As may be seen from Table 4-2, in all the districts of the State except Kanniyakumari, the sex ratio in rural areas is higher than that in urban areas. In Kanniyakumari district the sex ratio in rural areas is 969 and in urban areas it is 990. This may perhaps be due to the following reasons : Kanniyakumari is the smallest district in the State where the villages and towns are well connected by buses. Females in the district have a high level of literacy. There is considerable mobility of females to urban areas for studies and employment.

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Sex ratio in Class I cities :

Among the seventeen Class I cities in Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore has the lowest sex ratio of 894 (vide Table 4-4). It is a city noted for textile industries. Thanks to the entrepreneurship of the industrialists of Coimbatore, a number of ancillary textile industries, engineering industries etc. are flourishing in the city. The State's Agricultural University is located here besides a medical college and several engineering colleges. The low sex ratio of this city may perhaps be explained by the fact that males from other places might have come down here for employment or study leaving behind their families. In other words, there might be a highly male-selective in-migration. Madras which is the capital of the State and a noted industrial and trading centre, has a sex ratio of 904, ten points above that of Coimbatore. Nagercoil, the headquarters of Kanniyakumari district, has the highest sex ratio (994) among Class I cities.

Sex ratio among communities :

In Tamil Nadu, the sex ratio among Hindu is 1976. Muslims 994 and Christians 995. The sex ratios of Muslims who form 5.11 per cent of the population and Christians who constitute 5.75 per cent are less than 1,000 only by 6 and 5 points respectively. The sex ratio of Hindus is 24 points less than 1,000. The sex ratio among the Scheduled Castes who form 17.8 per cent of the population in Tamil Nadu is 984 and that among the Scheduled Tribes, who form 0.8 per cent of the population, is 951.

SECTION—II

How old are we ?

To ask one's age is certainly a delicate job. The census enumerator, however, could take this liberty since the information on age is valuable to the nation notwithstanding its personal nature. The data on age can be used in numerous ways and for many purposes including the analysis of the

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

factors of population change, the preparation of current population estimates and forecasts and the like. The age structure of a population is the cumulative effects of births and deaths (and migration wherever present) over many years in the past. This section will be devoted to a study of the age structure of the population in the State as on April 1, 1971.

The age of a person completed on the last birth day was ascertained by the census enumerator. Many persons especially in the rural areas, could not tell their age to the enumerators. They were, however, assisted to state the correct age by stimulating their memory with reference to some major event well known in the area.

The possibility of errors in age data is of greatest concern to the demographer. Age data suffer from defects even in advanced countries not to speak of developing countries. To cite an instance, in the 1960 census of U.S.A. there was a marked heaping of population at age 59. This meant that many people who were born around the turn of the century but not in the precise year 1900 still gave that year as the date of their birth.

People generally have a tendency to give their age in multiples of 5 and 10. We, therefore, get ages like 5, 10, 20 etc. in large numbers. The error in age data arising out of this is called "digit preference". Some people inflate or deflate their age psychologically or with some intention. Error due to this is called "age bias". Age data are, therefore, smoothed by adopting some mathematical formulae to remove the effects of digital preference and age bias, before they are used for research purposes.

We will, however, use here the unsmoothed age data. Table 4-5 gives the percentage of population in the broad age groups (excluding those who have not stated their age) in Tamil Nadu and in India. In Tamil Nadu, those with age

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less than 20 form 46.5 per cent of the population, those with age less than 40 but more than 20 form 30.4 per cent of the population and those less than 60 but more than 40 form 17.4 per cent of the population and those above 60 form 5.7 per cent of the population. Whereas, 42 per cent of the population of India are in the age group 0-14, only 38 per cent are found in this age group in Tamil Nadu.

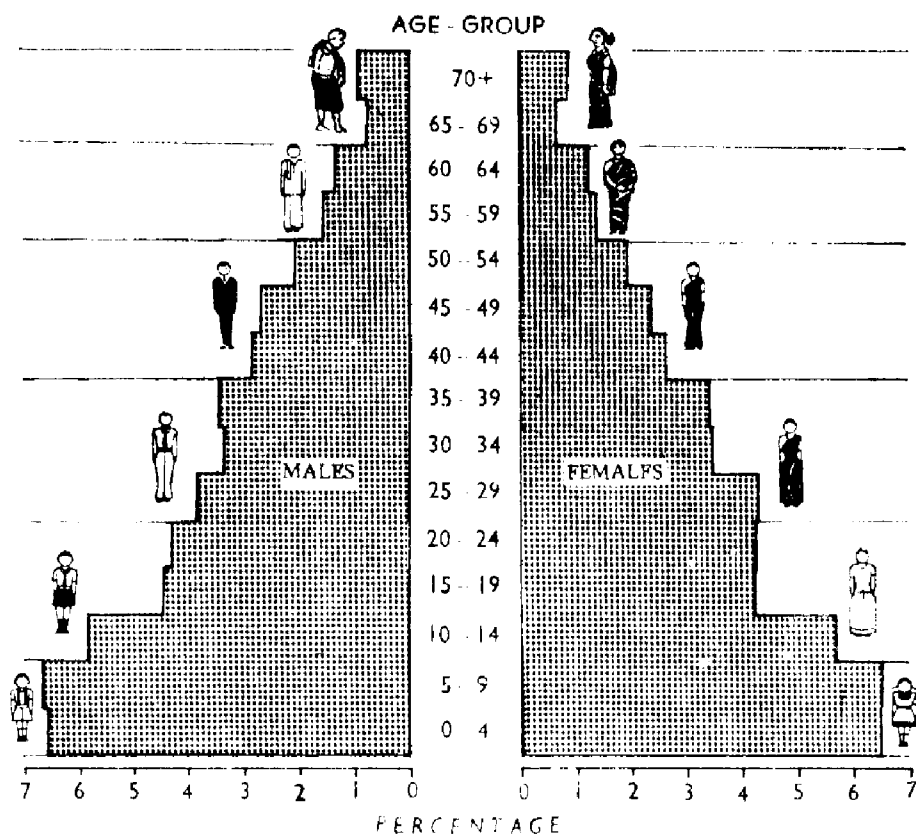
Age pyramid :

The age data for males and females when depicted pictorially give the "age pyramid" or "population pyramid" which with a flat base tapers off progressively upward. How is an age pyramid constructed? It is conventional to measure the absolute numbers or percentage of the population at each five year age group along with the horizontal axis, with males to the left of the vertical axis and females to the right. The youngest age group provides the base and the next higher age group comes over it and so on. The pyramid is nothing but two bar graphs placed on their sides and put back to back. The vertical centre line represents zero and when the pyramid is based on per cents, the sum of the length of all the bars (including both the male and the female sides) is 100. The age pyramid of developing countries has a broad base signifying a high fertility level. For developed countries where the birth rate had attained a low level and the proportion of children is low the age pyramid will have a much narrower base and relatively widened top.

Dependency ratio :

The "Dependency ratio" of a population fairly reflects the age distribution of that population. The problem of economic development of the developing countries is related in several ways to the age composition of these countries. The basis for the dependency ratio is the fact that every member of a society is a consumer and only some members are producers.

AGE PYRAMID 1971



The dependency ratio is conventionally defined as the number of persons under the age of 15, and above the age of 60 per 100 persons in the working ages ranging from 15 to 59 years. For India and Tamil Nadu the dependency ratios (both under 15 years and 60 years and over) are 92.3 and 77.1 respectively. Among the southern States, Tamil Nadu has the least dependency ratio. The dependency ratios in Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Kerala are respectively 88.1, 94.3 and 86.9.

The countries with the lowest dependency ratios are already highly urbanised and industrialised and have high levels of living. The poor countries have high fertility ; high fertility creates a heavy dependency load which hampers improvement of living conditions. Those countries that can hardly afford dependants have many dependants and those countries which can support a good number of dependants have only a small number of dependants.

Sex differential in age groups :

Under normal conditions, males outnumber females in younger ages, they are nearly equal in number in marriageable ages while females outnumber males at older ages. Any deviation from this pattern is of special significance to the demographer. The following are the three major causes which either singly or combinedly explain any imbalance in the sex ratio in the different ages :—(1) women may die in more number than men at various ages so that less number of women survive at any point of time. This is referred to as sex differential in mortality (2) large scale migration of particular sex and (3) errors in the data, e.g. under enumeration of females or over enumeration of males.

Table 4-6 gives the sex ratio in India and Tamil Nadu in different age groups. In the broad age groups 0-14, 15-49 and 50 plus, the sex ratios are 937, 933 and 895 for the country. The corresponding sex ratios in Tamil Nadu are 979, 988 and 934.

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Age structure in rural and urban areas :

There is a slight difference in the age structure of the rural and urban population of the State. Table 4-7 gives the percentage of population in the different age groups separately for rural and urban areas of the State.

It is observed that in the age group 0-14, the percentage is slightly higher in rural areas. In the age groups 15-19, 20-24 and 25-29 the percentage is higher in urban areas. This may be due to the migration of job seekers from rural to urban areas. From the age group 30-39 onwards the percentage is more in rural areas.

Centenarians of Tamil Nadu :

To live "at least for 100 years" is the desire of one and all. But only a few are lucky to reach this three digital age. There were only 2,779 persons (1,277 males and 1,502 females) on April 1, 1971, who had crossed the ripe old age of 100. The oldest man in the State, as on that date was one Narayana Pothi aged 140 years who was enumerated in Kalkulam taluk of Kanniyakumari district. The 1981 census may perhaps see more centenarians in Tamil Nadu than did the 1971 census.

TABLE 4-1

Sex Ratio in States and Union Territories and Cities with One Million Population and more, 1971

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory/City	Sex ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
1	2	3
	INDIA	930
	<i>States</i>	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	977
2.	Assam*	897
3.	Bihar	954
4.	Gujarat	934

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TABLE 4-1 (Contd.)

Sex Ratio in States and Union Territories and Cities with One Million Population and more, 1971

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory City	Sex ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
1	2	3
5.	Haryana	867
6.	Himachal Pradesh	958
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	878
8.	Kerala	1,016
9.	Madhya Pradesh	941
10.	Maharashtra	930
11.	Manipur	980
12.	Meghalaya	942
13.	Mysore	957
14.	Nagaland	871
15.	Orissa	988
16.	Punjab	865
17.	Rajasthan	911
18.	Sikkim	863
19.	Tamil Nadu	978
20.	Tripura	943
21.	Uttar Pradesh	879
22.	West Bengal	891
<i>Union Territories :</i>		
1.	Amdaman and Nicobar Islands	644
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	861
3.	Chandigarh	749
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1,007
5.	Delhi	801
6.	Goa, Daman and Diu	989
7.	Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands	978
8.	Pondicherry	989
<i>Urban agglomeration/core city</i>		
1.	Calcutta Urban Agglomeration	698
	Calcutta (M. Corp.)	636
2.	Greater Bombay (M. Corp.)	716
3.	Delhi Urban Agglomeration	798
	Delhi (M. Corp.)	806

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TABLE 4-1 (Contd.)

Sex Ratio in States and Union Territories and Cities with One Million Population and more, 1971.

Sl.	India State/Union Territory/City	Sex ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
1	2	3
4.	Madras Urban Agglomeration	903
	Madras (M. Corp.)	904
5.	Hyderabad Urban Agglomeration	917
	Hyderabad (M. Corp.)	928
6.	Ahmedabad Urban Agglomeration	830
	Ahmedabad (M. Corp.)	833
7.	Bangalore Urban Agglomeration	874
	Bangalore City Corporation and Trust Board Area (C)	877
8.	Kanpur Urban Agglomeration	762
	Kanpur (M. Corp.)	769
9.	Poona Urban Agglomeration	861
	Poona (M. Corp.)	885

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

TABLE 4-2

Sex Ratio in the Districts of Tamil Nadu in 1971

Sl. No.	State/District	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
	TAMIL NADU	978	990	951
1.	Madras	904	..	904
2.	Chengalpattu	948	965	916
3.	North Arcot	971	972	969
4.	South Arcot	969	972	954
5.	Dharmapuri	969	970	952
6.	Salem	963	967	953
7.	Coimbatore	957	974	926
8.	Nilgiris	944	961	927
9.	Madurai	986	998	964
10.	Tiruchirapalli	992	1,000	962
11.	Thanjavur	994	994	993
12.	Ramanathapuram	1,042	1,053	1,011
13.	Tirunelveli	1,042	1,051	1,023
14.	Kanniyakumari	972	969	990

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TABLE 4-3
Sex Ratio in the Taluks

Sl. No.	Taluk	Sex ratio
1	2	3
	Madras	904
	Chengalpattu District	
1.	Gummidipundi (Sub-taluk)	940
2.	Ponneri	958
3.	Pennalurpet (Sub-taluk)	969
4.	Tiruvallur	961
5.	Pallipet (Sub-taluk)	968
6.	Tiruttani	967
7.	Sriperumbudur	943
8.	Saidapet	906
9.	Chengalpattu	950
10.	Kanchipuram	971
11.	Uthiramerur (Sub-taluk)	987
12.	Maduranthakam	973
	North Arcot District	
1.	Arkonam	976
2.	Walajahpet	985
3.	Gudiyatham	969
4.	Vaniyambadi	983
5.	Tiruppathur	967
6.	Vellore	969
7.	Arni	992
8.	Cheyyar	972
9.	Wandiwash	977
10.	Polur	970
11.	Chengam	952
12.	Tiruvannamalai	957
13.	Arcot.	964

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TABLE 4-3—(Contd.)
Sex Ratio in the Taluks

Sl. No.	Taluk	Sex ratio
1	2	3
South Arcot District		
1. Gingee		964
2. Tindivanam		965
3. Villupuram		957
4. Tirukoilur		970
5. Kallakurichi		976
6. Vridhachalam		981
7. Cuddalore		963
8. Chidambaram		981
Dharmapuri District		
1. Hosur		960
2. Denkanikotta		947
3. Krishnagiri		982
4. Uthangarai		966
5. Harur		964
6. Palacode (Sub-taluk)		982
7. Dharmapuri		969
Salem District		
1. Mettur		940
2. Omalur		946
3. Yercaud (Sub-taluk)		924
4. Salem		955
5. Sankari		942
6. Tiruchengode		975
7. Rasipuram		973
8. Attur		975
9. Namakkal		993

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TABLE 4-3—(Contd.)

Sex Ratio in the Taluks

Sl. No.	Taluk	Sex ratio
1	2	3
Coimbatore District		
1. Bhavani		948
2. Gobichettipalayam		969
3. Erode		956
4. Dharapuram		991
5. Palladam		964
6. Avanashi		962
7. Coimbatore		923
8. Pollachi		965
9. Udumalpet		984
Nilgiris District		
1. Gudalur		942
2. Ootacamund		940
3. Coonoor		948
Madurai District		
1. Veda sandur		1,012
2. Dindigul		989
3. Palani		995
4. Kodaikanal		935
5. Periyakulam		987
6. Uthamapalayam		990
7. Nilakottai		997
8. Melur		1,008
9. Madurai North		1,004
10. Madurai South		952
11. Usilampatti		976
12. Tirumangalam		1,018

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 4-3—(Contd.)
Sex Ratio in the Taluks

Sl. No.	Taluk	Sex ratio
1	2	3
Tiruchirapalli District		
1.	Perambalur	995
2.	Udayarpalayam	974
3.	Ariyalur	995
4.	Lalgudi	1,005
5.	Thuraiyur	990
6.	Musiri	1,002
7.	Karur	1,010
8.	Kulithalai	999
9.	Manaparai	989
10.	Tiruchirapalli	951
11.	Kulathur	992
12.	Alangudi	982
13.	Thirumayam	1,087
Thanjavur District		
1.	Sirkali	987
2.	Mayuram	1,000
3.	Kumbakonam	989
4.	Nannilam	1,017
5.	Papanasam	999
6.	Thanjavur	979
7.	Orathanad	998
8.	Mannargudi	992
9.	Nagapattinam	1,008
10.	Thiruthuraipundi	984
11.	Pattukkottai	985
12.	Peravurani (Sub-taluk)	981
13.	Aranthangi	1,005

TABLE 4-3—(Contd.)
Sex Ratio in the Taluks

Sl. No.	Taluk	Sex ratio
1	2	3
Ramanathapuram District		
1.	Tiruppathur	1,069
2.	Karaikudi (Sub-taluk)	1,044
3.	Sivaganga	1,058
4.	Manamadurai (Sub-taluk)	1,020
5.	Devakottai (Sub-taluk)	1,064
6.	Thiruvadanai	1,079
7.	Ilayankudi (Sub-taluk)	1,106
8.	Paramakudi	1,050
9.	Ramanathapuram	1,084
10.	Kamuthi (Sub-taluk)	1,044
11.	Mudukulathur	1,066
12.	Tiruchuli (Sub-taluk)	1,045
13.	Aruppukkottai	1,028
14.	Virudhunagar (Sub-taluk)	991
15.	Sattur	1,004
16.	Srivilliputhur	1,029
17.	Rajapalayam (Sub-taluk)	995
Tirunelveli District		
1.	Sankaranayanarkoil	1,011
2.	Kovilpatty	1,028
3.	Ottapidaram (Sub-taluk)	1,026
4.	Tuticorin	983
5.	Srivaikuntam	1,077
6.	Tirunelveli	1,026
7.	Tenkasi	1,018
8.	Shencottah	1,015
9.	Ambasamudram	1,043
10.	Nanguneri	1,084
11.	Tiruchendur	1,121
12.	Vilathikulam	1,039
13.	Sivagiri (Sub-taluk)	1,021
Kanniyakumari District		
1.	Vilavancode	963
2.	Kalkulam	960
3.	Thovala	993
4.	Agasteeswaram	994

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 4-4
Sex Ratio in the Class I Cities of
Tamil Nadu in 1971

Sl. No.	Name of Class I City	Sex ratio
1	2	3
1.	Madras	904
2.	Kanchipuram	967
3.	Vellore	959
4.	Cuddalore	976
5.	Salem	948
6.	Erode	921
7.	Tiruppur	928
8.	Coimbatore	894
9.	Singanallur	931
10.	Dindigul	966
11.	Madurai	949
12.	Tiruchirapalli	952
13.	Kumbakonam	993
14.	Thanjavur	974
15.	Tuticorin	980
16.	Tirunelveli	986
17.	Nagercoil	994

TABLE 4-5
Percentage of Population in the Different
Age Groups in India and Tamil Nadu

Age group	India	Tamil Nadu
1	2	3
0-14	42.02	37.77
15-19	8.66	8.72
20-24	7.86	8.58
25-29	7.45	8.14
30-39	12.61	13.63
40-49	9.34	10.51
50-59	6.09	6.91
60+	5.97	5.74
All ages	100.00	100.00

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 4-6
Sex Ratio in India and Tamil Nadu
in Different Age Groups

Age group	India	Tamil Nadu
1	2	3
Total	930	978
0-14	937	979
15-19	882	952
20-24	998	994
25-29	1,007	1,127
30-39	943	1,004
40-49	859	899
50-59	854	910
60+	938	965
Age not stated	1,067	853

TABLE 4-7
Percentage of Population in the Different Age
Groups Separately for Rural and Urban
Areas of Tamil Nadu, 1971

Age group	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
0-14	37.77	37.99	37.28
15-19	8.72	8.31	9.69
20-24	8.58	8.04	9.80
25-29	8.14	8.00	8.46
30-39	13.63	13.66	13.54
40-49	10.51	10.74	9.96
50-59	6.91	7.25	6.13
60+	5.74	6.01	5.14
All ages	100.00	100.00	100.00

CHAPTER V

How many of us can read & write?

Who is a literate ? In the 1971 census, a literate has been defined as a person “who can both read and write with understanding in any language”. Children upto age four were treated as illiterate for the purpose of census even if the child was going to school and could read and write. One who could merely read but could not write was also not taken as a literate. A person could, however, be a literate without having received any formal education. Those whose calligraphic attainments extended only to the scrawling of their own names were not considered as literates.

Literacy in India. Comparison with other countries :

Of the total population of India only 295 per 1,000 are literates as per the 1971 census. In other words, seven out of every ten persons are illiterates in our country.

The definition of literacy varies from country to country. Many countries of the world compute literacy for persons of 15 years of age and above. As already pointed out, in our country we calculate the same for population aged 5 years and above. Despite this limitation one could make a comparison of literacy level in different countries to have a general idea of the differential in this respect.

There are 16,256,393 literates in Tamil Nadu in 1971. The percentage of literates works out to 39.5 which is higher than that for India as a whole.

As children upto age 4 are not to be considered for the calculation of literacy rate the population in the age group

0-4 is subtracted from the total population and the percentage of literacy is calculated taking into account this population only. The rate thus got is called true or effective literacy rate. The United Nations has recommended the exclusion of the age group 0-9 for this purpose. For the present analysis, however, we may confine ourselves to the general literacy rate (i.e. percentage of literates to total population including all ages) as the age group-wise population is being finalised. The general literacy rates are given in Table 5-1 for India and Tamil Nadu from 1901 onwards.

While the absolute increase during 1961-71 may appear impressive, the proportionate increase during the decade has been meagre. The percentage of literates has increased at an average annual rate of 0.54 per cent in India as a whole and 0.81 per cent in Tamil Nadu.

Though literacy and learning were considered vital in Indian society, foreign invasions, local feuds and natural calamities in the past led to neglect of education. During the period 1901-1931, in 30 years, female literacy has risen from 0.69 per cent to 2.93 per cent in India and from 1.02 per cent to 2.94 per cent in Tamil Nadu. In the case of males, it has increased from 9.83 to 15.59 in India and from 14.52 to 19.98 in Tamil Nadu.

Prior to Independence, education was the gateway for employment and generally, the urban population and the higher classes took to it in large numbers. In the post-Independence period, the progress of literacy has been comparatively faster. At all-India level, it went up from 16.67 in 1951 to 29.45 in 1971. In Tamil Nadu the increase was from 20.85 to 39.46. As far as females are concerned, the literacy rate has more than doubled itself during this period from 7.93 to 18.70 at all-India level and 10.06 to 26.86 in Tamil Nadu. The various steps taken by Free India in the field of education like compulsory and free education, adult literacy drive etc., are responsible for an improvement in the literacy level from what it was prior to Independence.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

Literacy in the States of India :

In Table 5-2 the States are ranked according to percentage of literacy. Of the 22 States, 11 have a rate above 29.45 per cent which is the rate of literacy for India as a whole. Tamil Nadu holds the second rank among the States next only to Kerala. There is, however, a big gap between the percentage of literates of Kerala (60.42) and Tamil Nadu (39.46).

Literacy in the districts and taluks of Tamil Nadu :

Table 5-3 gives for all the districts in the State, the percentage of literates in rural and urban areas sex-wise. The districts ranked according to the general literacy rate are as follows :—

State average : 39.46 per cent

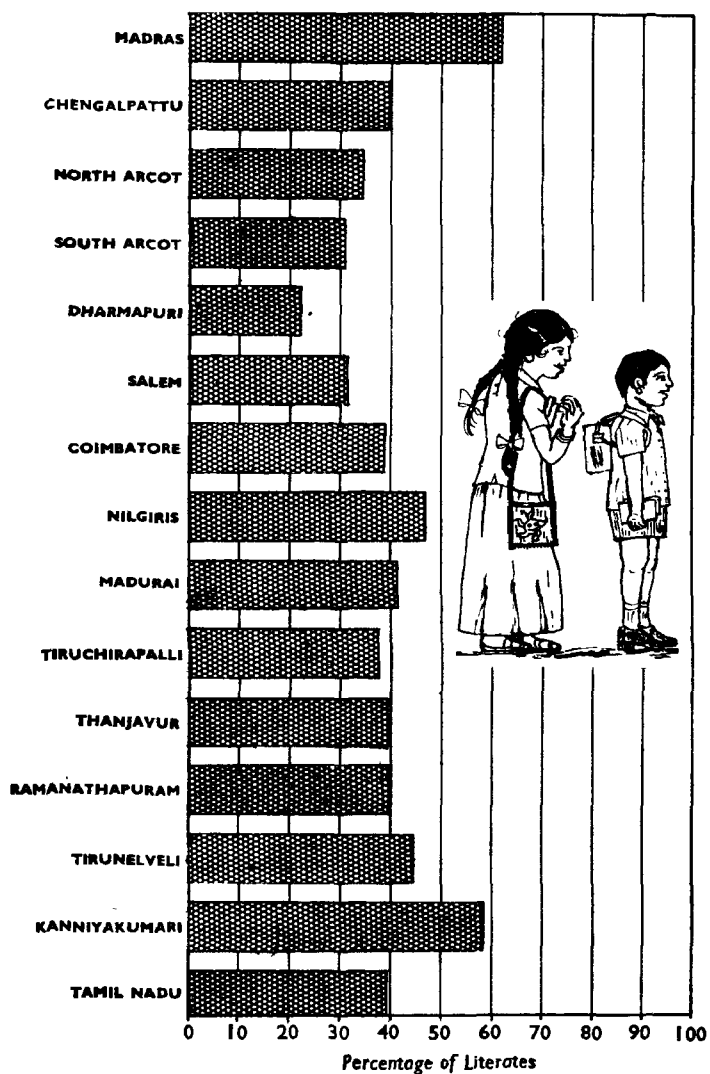
Districts above the average				Districts below the average			
1.	Madras	62.01		9.	Coimbatore	38.90	
2.	Kanniyakumari	58.21		10.	Tiruchirapalli	37.51	
3.	Nilgiris	47.03		11.	North Arcot	34.66	
4.	Tirunelveli	44.83		12.	Salem	31.71	
5.	Madurai	41.51		13.	South Arcot	31.14	
6.	Ramanathapuram	39.74		14.	Dharmapuri	22.32	
7.	Chengalpattu	39.73					
8.	Thanjavur	39.66					

Thus it is seen that Dharmapuri district is the most backward in literacy. Table 5-4 gives the literacy level in the taluks.

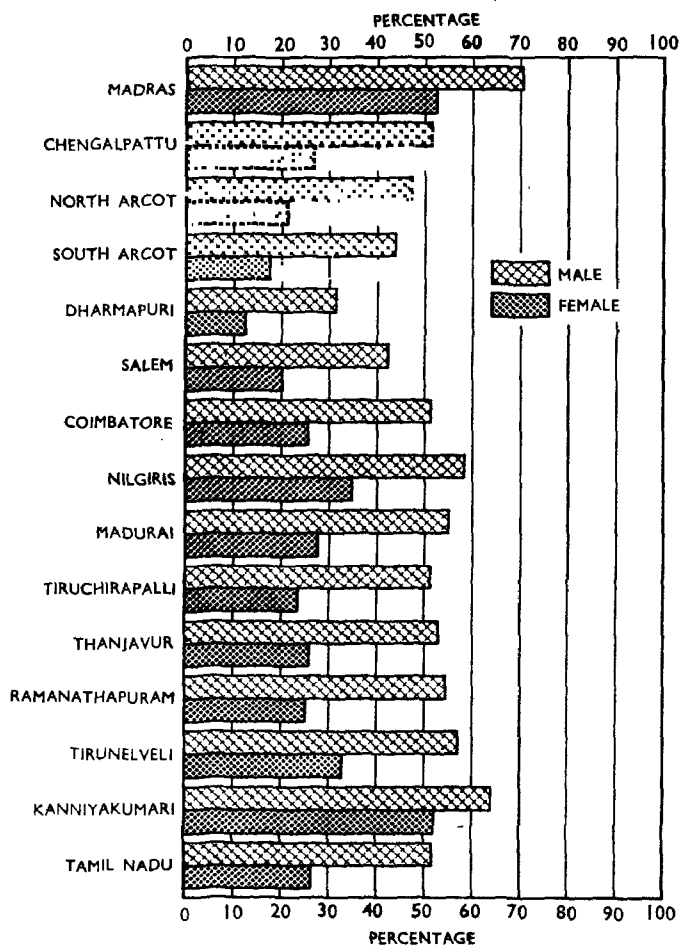
Male and female literacy :

Literacy rate among females is 18.70 for India as a whole which is less than half the rate among males (39.45). Due to social customs and manners, female literacy in our country has been at a low ebb for ages. As already referred to, female literacy level has been showing sure signs of improvement in the recent past and is bound to improve further in the years to come.

PERCENTAGE OF LITERATES IN THE DISTRICTS 1971



LITERACY RATIO IN STATE AND DISTRICTS BY SEX 1971



It is again in Kerala that female literacy (54.31) is the highest among States (vide Table 5-6). Tamil Nadu takes the second place (26.86). Rajasthan has the smallest percentage (8.46) of female literates. In Tamil Nadu, the number of female literates is 5,472,610 in 1971 as against 3,048,293 in 1961—an increase of 79.53 per cent in ten years. The corresponding percentage of increase among males was 43.17 per cent, the number of male literates in the State in 1971 and 1961 being 10,783,783 and 7,532,323 respectively.

High literacy in urban areas :

The literacy rate is higher in urban areas than in rural areas and within the urban tract, cities are areas of concentration of literates. This is accounted for by greater opportunities for employment and more facilities for higher education in urban areas, particularly in cities.

In India as a whole, the percentage of literates is 23.74 in rural areas and 52.44 in urban areas. For males the corresponding figures are 33.76 and 61.28 and for females, 13.17 and 42.14. The difference between the percentage of literates in rural and urban areas is slightly higher in the case of females than males. In Tamil Nadu, 56.36 per cent are literates in urban areas as against 32.13 per cent in rural areas.

In Table 5-5 the literacy levels in the Class I towns are shown. Though Madras City with 62.01 per cent of its population as literates stands first among the districts, it takes the fifth place among Class I towns, the first four positions being occupied by Nagercoil (69.20), Coimbatore (64.49), Tiruchirapalli (63.39) and Madurai (63.14).

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

The following statement shows the percentage of literates in each class of cities.

Class of cities	Population	Percentage of literates
Class I (100,000 and above)		61.09
II (50,000 to 99,999)		56.44
III (20,000 to 49,999)		53.77
IV (10,000 to 19,999)		50.65
V (5,000 to 9,999)		47.51
VI (Less than 5,000)		44.91

It is observed in general that the average literacy rate increases with the size of towns. This may be due to the fact that facilities and opportunities for education are more in bigger towns than in smaller ones.

A more detailed analysis of the different educational level of the people and literacy by age group will be made in the general report after the tabulation of the data. In Table 5-6 the literacy levels in the States and Union Territories of India, sex-wise and rural-urban-wise are given.

TABLE 5-1
Percentage of Literates in India and Tamil Nadu from 1901 to 1971

Year	India						Tamil Nadu	
	Percentage of literates						Percentage of literates	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7
1901*	.	.	.	5.35	9.83	0.69	7.64	14.52
1911*	.	.	.	5.92	10.56	1.05	9.18	17.14
1921*	.	.	.	7.16	12.21	1.81	10.38	18.55
1931*	.	.	.	9.50	15.59	2.93	11.34	19.98
1941	.	.	.	Not available			16.19	25.61
1951†	.	.	.	16.67	24.95	7.93	20.85	31.73
1961	.	.	.	24.02	34.44	12.95	31.41	44.54
1971	.	.	.	29.45	39.45	18.70	39.46	51.78
								26.86

*For undivided India.

†Excludes Jammu and Kashmir.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-2
States Arranged in the Descending Order
of percentage of Literates

Sl. No.	State	Percentage of literates
1	2	3
1.	Kerala	60.42
2.	Tamil Nadu	39.46
3.	Maharashtra	39.18
4.	Gujarat	35.79
5.	Punjab	33.67
6.	West Bengal	33.20
7.	Manipur	32.91
8.	Himachal Pradesh	31.96
9.	Mysore	31.52
10.	Tripura	30.98
11.	Meghalaya	29.49
12.	Assam*	28.72
13.	Nagaland	27.40
14.	Haryana	26.89
15.	Orissa	26.18
16.	Andhra Pradesh	24.57
17.	Madhya Pradesh	22.14
18.	Uttar Pradesh	21.70
19.	Bihar	19.94
20.	Rajasthan	19.07
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.58
22.	Sikkim	17.74

*Includes the Mizo District which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-3
Percentage of Literates in the Districts
of Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	State/District	Total Rural Urban	Percentage of literates		
			Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
	TAMIL NADU	T	39.46	51.78	26.86
		R	32.13	45.14	18.98
		U	56.36	66.76	45.42
1.	Madras	T	62.01	70.57	52.54
		R	62.01	70.57	52.54
		U	62.01	70.57	52.54
2.	Chengalpattu	T	39.73	51.76	27.03
		R	31.38	43.86	18.44
		U	55.40	66.24	43.57
3.	North Arcot	T	34.66	47.55	21.39
		R	29.88	43.27	16.11
		U	52.82	63.80	41.49
4.	South Arcot	T	31.14	44.06	17.80
		R	27.32	40.58	13.67
		U	54.23	64.91	43.03
5.	Dharmapuri	T	22.32	31.66	12.67
		R	19.70	28.93	10.20
		U	50.17	60.50	39.33
6.	Salem	T	31.71	42.68	20.33
		R	25.67	36.71	14.25
		U	48.39	59.03	37.23
7.	Coimbatore	T	38.90	51.33	25.90
		R	30.66	43.63	17.35
		U	53.81	64.94	41.79
8.	Nilgiris	T	47.03	58.48	34.90
		R	41.27	54.03	27.98
		U	52.97	62.99	42.17
9.	Madurai	T	41.51	55.07	27.77
		R	33.47	48.19	18.71
		U	57.39	68.41	45.96
10.	Tiruchirapalli	T	37.51	51.22	23.68
		R	31.10	45.73	16.48
		U	59.86	70.02	49.30
11.	Thanjavur	T	39.66	53.10	26.14
		R	35.75	49.86	21.57
		U	54.79	65.65	43.85
12.	Ramanathapuram	T	39.74	54.72	25.36
		R	34.16	49.97	19.14
		U	55.54	67.88	43.33
13.	Tirunelveli	T	44.83	57.13	33.02
		R	40.12	52.94	27.93
		U	54.76	65.86	43.90
14.	Kanniyakumari	T	58.21	64.12	52.14
		R	56.62	62.62	50.43
		U	66.14	71.67	60.56

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-4
Percentage of Literates in the Taluks

Taluk/Ind. Sub-Taluk	Percentage of literates		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Madras District			
Madras	62.01	70.57	52.54
Chengalpattu District			
1. Gummidipundi	27.41	39.04	15.04
2. Ponneri	33.99	45.32	22.16
3. Pennalurpet	28.42	40.56	15.9
4. Tiruvallur	35.98	47.81	23.67
5. Pallipet	29.66	45.02	13.78
6. Tiruttani	29.17	41.09	16.83
7. Sriperumbudur	42.57	55.11	29.27
8. Saidapet	54.12	64.69	42.44
9. Chengalpattu	37.67	50.26	24.41
10 Kanchipuram	43.33	56.64	29.62
11. Uthiramerur	32.11	45.12	18.93
12. Maduranthakam	28.64	39.81	17.15
North Arcot District			
1. Arkonam	33.98	47.30	20.33
2. Walajahpet	36.13	49.56	22.50
3. Gudiyatham	35.24	47.63	22.46
4. Vaniyambadi	35.94	46.66	25.03
5. Tiruppattur	29.21	40.15	17.90
6. Vellore	47.10	59.27	34.54
7. Arni	36.91	52.09	21.62
8. Cheyyar	33.99	49.66	17.86
9. Wandiwash	33.82	49.20	18.08
10. Polur	30.01	43.64	15.96
11. Chengam	22.79	33.45	11.58
12. Tiruvannamalai	31.99	44.77	18.63
13. Arcot	40.57	55.69	24.89

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-4—(Contd.)
Percentage of Literates in the Taluks

Taluk/Ind. Sub-Taluk	Percentage of literates		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
South Arcot District			
1. Gingee	26.94	40.21	13.17
2. Tindivanam	29.69	42.84	16.06
3. Villupuram	31.93	44.65	18.64
4. Tirukoilur	25.56	37.20	13.56
5. Kallakurichi	23.05	34.38	11.45
6. Vridhachalam	30.80	45.83	15.47
7. Cuddalore	35.80	48.18	22.95
8. Chidambaram	40.91	55.37	26.17
Dharmapuri District			
1. Hosur	21.29	29.99	12.23
2. Denkanikotta	19.11	27.55	10.20
3. Krishnagiri	23.42	32.51	14.17
4. Uthangarai	20.99	30.93	10.71
5. Harur	23.28	33.44	12.73
6. Palacode	18.37	26.90	9.69
7. Dharmapuri	24.99	34.95	14.70
Salem District			
1. Mettur	32.13	42.77	20.82
2. Omalur	23.55	32.94	13.64
3. Yercaud	27.09	35.67	17.81
4. Salem	39.56	50.08	28.55
5. Sankari	23.20	33.53	12.33
6. Tiruchengode	31.09	42.59	19.29
7. Rasipuram	31.98	42.96	20.69
8. Attur	29.27	40.46	17.80
9. Namakkal	30.87	43.66	18.00
Coimbatore District			
1. Bhavani	27.39	38.29	15.90
2. Gobichettipalayam	28.90	40.29	17.14
3. Erode	33.93	46.67	20.61
4. Dharapuram	33.23	47.38	18.95
5. Palladam	40.70	54.94	25.93
6. Avanashi	34.93	47.63	21.74
7. Coimbatore	52.88	63.82	41.03
8. Pollachi	40.41	53.27	27.08
9. Udumalpet	38.96	51.97	25.74

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-4--(Contd.)
Percentage of Literates in the Taluks

Taluk/Ind. Sub-Taluk	Percentage of literates		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Nilgiris District			
1. Gudalur	42.66	51.44	33.35
2. Ootacamund	45.75	57.94	32.79
3. Coonoor	50.06	62.04	37.42
Madurai District			
1. Vedsandur	26.66	40.93	12.56
2. Dindigul	38.82	51.56	25.95
3. Palani	34.10	48.95	19.16
4. Kodaikanal	43.20	55.65	29.88
5. Periyakulam	36.83	50.53	22.95
6. Uthamapalayam	41.31	55.30	27.18
7. Nilakottai	40.74	55.12	26.31
8. Melur	34.01	50.00	18.14
9. Madurai North	44.46	58.39	30.60
10. Madurai South	59.66	70.35	48.43
11. Usilampatti	30.70	44.30	16.77
12. Tirumangalam	41.01	56.72	25.58
Tiruchirapalli District			
1. Perambalur	30.07	44.38	15.68
2. Udayarpalayam	32.09	47.61	16.16
3. Ariyalur	27.32	41.48	13.09
4. Lalgudi	41.75	56.73	26.83
5. Thuraiyur	40.20	54.52	25.73
6. Musiri	37.87	52.69	23.07
7. Karur	37.41	53.07	21.90
8. Kulithalai	28.76	40.96	16.55
9. Manaparai	27.02	40.71	13.17
10. Tiruchirapalli	58.04	68.00	47.56
11. Kulathur	26.29	40.35	12.11
12. Alangudi	36.70	51.33	21.79
13. Thirumayam	29.82	43.45	17.28

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-4, (Contd.)

Percentage of Literates in the Taluks

Taluk/Ind. Sub-Taluk	Percentage of literates		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Thanjavur District			
1. Sirkali	32.64	44.13	21.01
2. Mayuram	39.52	51.63	27.40
3. Kumbakonam	44.30	57.34	31.10
4. Nannilam	43.69	57.89	29.72
5. Papanasam	37.58	50.33	24.81
6. Thanjavur	47.00	59.35	34.38
7. Orathanad	28.21	43.19	13.20
8. Mannargudi	40.28	53.46	27.00
9. Nagapattinam	44.16	56.99	31.44
10. Thiruthurai pundi	40.08	55.50	24.41
11. Pattukkottai	33.92	47.76	19.87
12. Peravurani	34.43	50.32	18.24
13. Arantangi	32.83	48.52	17.23
Ramanathapuram District			
1. Tiruppathur	34.70	49.59	20.77
2. Karaikudi	47.47	61.40	34.12
3. Sivaganga	35.97	51.98	20.84
4. Manamadurai	34.96	51.75	18.50
5. Devakottai	41.67	57.71	26.60
6. Thiruvadanai	35.23	51.68	19.99
7. Ilayankudi	39.27	56.54	23.65
8. Paramakudi	35.60	51.61	20.35
9. Ramanathapuram	40.15	51.75	29.45
10. Kamuthi	41.41	57.59	25.91
11. Mudukulathur	32.02	47.87	17.15
12. Tiruchuli	33.87	51.94	16.58
13. Aruppukottai	43.40	58.50	28.71
14. Virudhunagar	47.08	60.94	33.10
15. Sattur	45.64	60.18	31.16
16. Srivilliputhur	38.17	51.65	25.07
17. Rajapalayam	41.68	55.91	27.39

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TABLE 5-4—(Contd.)
Percentage of Literates in the Taluks

Taluk/Ind. Sub-Taluk	Percentage of literates		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Tirunelveli District			
1. Sankaranayanarkoil	32.29	46.75	17.98
2. Kovilapatty	41.56	56.04	27.47
3. Ottapidaram	36.90	50.70	23.45
4. Tuticorin	57.06	66.41	47.56
5. Srivaikuntam	46.57	58.07	35.89
6. Tirunelveli	48.85	61.20	36.82
7. Tenkasi	39.66	55.05	24.54
8. Shencottah	41.10	54.92	27.47
9. Ambasamudram	45.85	59.15	33.11
10. Nanguneri	45.66	54.81	37.22
11. Tiruchendur	55.85	62.73	49.71
12. Vilathikulam	41.19	56.15	26.79
13. Sivagiri	34.72	51.18	18.59
Kanniyakumari District			
1. Vilavancode	54.33	60.69	47.73
2. Kalkulam	55.50	60.50	20.29
3. Thovala	59.92	67.67	52.10
4. Agasteeswaram.	65.57	71.77	59.33

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-5

Percentage of Literates in Class I towns (Cities)

Sl. No.	Name of the Town (Class I)	Population	No. of literates	Percentage of literates
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Madras	2,469,449	1,531,406	62.01
2.	Madurai	549,114	346,711	63.14
3.	Coimbatore	356,368	229,812	64.49
4.	Salem	308,716	170,318	55.17
5.	Tiruchirapalli	307,400	194,854	63.39
6.	Tuticorin	155,310	95,436	61.45
7.	Nagercoil	141,288	97,773	69.20
8.	Thanjavur	140,547	86,241	61.36
9.	Vellore	139,082	82,168	59.08
10.	Dindigul	128,429	74,748	58.20
11.	Tiruppur	113,302	61,859	54.60
12.	Kumbakonam	113,130	65,219	57.65
13.	Singanallur	112,206	60,136	53.59
14.	Kanchipuram	110,657	62,136	56.15
15.	Tirunelveli	108,498	64,465	59.42
16.	Erode	105,111	58,063	55.24
17.	Cuddalore	101,335	54,004	53.29
TOTAL		5,459,942	3,335,349	61.09

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-6
Percentage of Literates in India, States
and Union Territories

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	Total Rural Urban	Percentage of literates		
			Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
INDIA		T	29.45	39.45	18.70
		R	23.74	33.76	13.17
		U	52.44	61.28	42.14
<i>States</i>					
1. Andhra Pradesh		T	24.57	33.18	15.75
		R	19.19	27.31	10.92
		U	47.08	57.30	36.31
2. Assam*		T	28.72	37.19	19.27
		R	25.80	34.28	16.51
		U	58.69	64.54	50.89
3. Bihar		T	19.94	30.64	8.72
		R	17.17	27.64	6.39
		U	44.92	55.43	31.89
4. Gujarat		T	35.79	46.11	24.75
		R	28.33	38.92	17.19
		U	54.90	63.96	44.77
5. Haryana		T	26.89	37.29	14.89
		R	21.72	32.57	9.24
		U	51.00	59.12	41.48
6. Himachal Pradesh		T	31.96	43.19	20.23
		R	29.81	41.19	18.15
		U	60.54	66.76	52.24
7. Jammu and Kashmir		T	18.58	26.75	9.28
		R	14.11	22.17	4.98
		U	38.17	46.60	28.38
8. Kerala		T	60.42	66.62	54.31
		R	59.28	65.57	53.10
		U	66.31	71.99	60.62
9. Madhya Pradesh		T	22.14	32.70	10.92
		R	16.81	27.05	6.10
		U	49.55	60.46	36.98
10. Maharashtra		T	39.18	51.04	26.43
		R	30.63	43.22	17.84
		U	58.07	66.88	47.33

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-6—(Contd.)

Percentage of Literates in India, States
and Union Territories

Sl. No.	India State/Union Territory	Total Rural Urban	Percentage of literates		
			Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Manipur		T	32.91	46.04	19.53
		R	29.83	43.04	16.35
		U	53.24	65.80	40.43
12. Meghalaya		T	29.49	34.12	24.56
		R	23.40	27.68	18.94
		U	65.22	69.93	59.69
13. Mysore		T	31.52	41.62	20.97
		R	25.13	35.40	14.54
		U	51.43	60.40	41.61
14. Nagaland		T	27.40	35.02	18.65
		R	23.71	30.51	16.39
		U	60.79	66.13	49.47
15. Orissa		T	26.18	38.29	13.92
		R	24.09	36.14	12.06
		U	49.00	59.94	36.05
16. Punjab		T	33.67	40.38	25.90
		R	27.81	34.69	19.88
		U	52.49	58.55	45.41
17. Rajasthan		T	19.07	28.74	8.46
		R	13.85	22.87	4.03
		U	43.47	55.53	29.69
18. Sikkim		T	17.74	25.37	8.90
		R	14.80	22.11	6.53
		U	46.17	53.48	35.43
19. Tamil Nadu		T	39.46	51.78	26.86
		R	32.13	45.14	18.98
		U	56.36	66.76	45.42
20. Tripura		T	30.98	40.20	21.19
		R	27.13	36.43	17.27
		U	64.01	72.42	55.03
21. Uttar Pradesh		T	21.70	31.50	10.55
		R	18.13	28.02	6.99
		U	43.63	52.08	33.33
22. West Bengal		T	33.20	42.81	22.42
		R	25.72	35.80	15.02
		U	55.93	62.01	47.84

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 5-6—(Contd.)
Percentage of Literates in India, States
and Union Territories

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	Total Rural Urban	Percentage of Literates		
			Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Union Territories</i>					
1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		T	43.59	51.64	31.11
		R	38.31	46.80	25.66
		U	61.53	66.93	51.85
2. Arunachal Pradesh . . .		T	11.29	17.82	3.71
		R	9.79	15.77	3.00
		U	50.46	59.28	31.18
3. Chandigarh		T	61.56	66.97	54.35
		R	30.53	38.84	18.36
		U	64.80	70.03	57.89
4. Dadra and Nagar Haveli .		T	14.97	22.15	7.84
		R	14.97	22.15	7.84
		U	..	..	..
5. Delhi		T	56.61	63.71	47.75
		R	36.23	49.00	20.75
		U	58.95	65.37	50.90
6. Goa, Daman and Diu . .		T	44.75	54.31	35.09
		R	40.59	50.40	31.06
		U	56.32	64.39	47.21
7. Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands		T	43.66	56.48	30.56
		R	43.66	56.48	30.56
		U	..	..	..
8. Pondicherry		T	46.02	57.29	34.62
		R	38.60	51.14	25.87
		U	56.23	65.83	46.60

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

CHAPTER VI

Our Mother-Tongue

Tamil Nadu—the land of Tamil—is the name of this State where the majority of the population speak Tamil or “Thamizh” which belongs to the Dravidian family of languages. Apart from Tamilians there are other linguistic groups in this State who speak Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam etc.

Mother-tongues returned in the 1971 census :

The enumerator of 1971 census recorded the answer to question 14 on mother-tongue in the individual slip adopting the following definition : Mother-tongue is the language spoken in childhood by the person's mother to the person. If the mother died in infancy, the language mainly spoken in the person's home in childhood will be the mother-tongue. In the case of infants and deaf mutes, the language usually spoken by the mother shall be recorded.

Mother-tongue being a sensitive question, the instructions to the enumerators were as follows :

“Record mother-tongue in full whatever be the name of the language as returned and avoid use of abbreviations. You are not expected to determine if the language returned by a person is the dialect of another major language and so on. You should not try to establish any relationship between religion and mother-tongue. You are bound to record the language as returned by the person as his mother-tongue and you should not enter into any argument with him and try to record anything other than what is returned. If you have reason to suspect that in any area due to any organised movement, mother-tongue was not being truthfully

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returned, you should record the mother-tongue as actually returned by the respondent and make a report to your superior Census Officers for verification. You are not authorised to make any correction on your own”.

Question 15 related to other languages than the mother-tongue known by the informant.

In this Chapter we will deal only with the languages/mother-tongue data (inclusive of mother-tongues where grouped). The population speaking each of the languages included in Schedule VIII to the Constitution of India and the percentage of speakers of each language to total population are given in Table 6-1. In Table 6-2, the number of persons speaking languages/mother-tongues, other than those specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India and the percentage of speakers of each language/mother-tongue to total population are furnished. Tamil, the language of the State, is the mother-tongue of 84.51 per cent of the population of the State. Those speaking Telugu form 8.74 per cent. Kannada speakers constitute 2.56 per cent. Malayalam speaking population account for 1.36 per cent of the population and Urdu speakers form 1.84 per cent. These four languages—Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam—which belong to the Dravidian family account for 97.18 per cent of the population. Urdu, spoken mostly by Muslims, belongs to the Indo-Aryan branch.

Languages which come next in importance are given below (the number of speakers is indicated within brackets) : Gujarati (199,045), Hindi (77,445), Marathi (59,965) and English (30,117). Gujarati speakers include speakers of Saurashtra language. Saurashtra is spoken by a section of the weaving community of this State who had migrated from Gujarat. These people are referred to as Saurashtras or Patnulkarans. They are predominant in the districts of Madurai, Thanjavur, Salem and Ramanathapuram. The other Gujarati speakers are mostly engaged in trade/industry.

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Similarly, Badaga which is included in Kannada is spoken by a section of people of Kannada origin who live in Nilgiris district. Most of the people in Tamil Nadu who speak Hindi are migrants from the North. English is the mother-tongue of the Anglo-Indians and foreigners who reside here for official or business purposes. Marathi speaking people are found mostly in Madras City and in the districts of North Arcot, Thanjavur and Dharmapuri. It may be pointed out here that in 17th and 18th centuries the Marathas ruled over the Thanjavur region.

In addition to the languages/mother-tongues mentioned above, there are 7 languages each of which is the mother-tongue of more than 1,000 people in the State : (1) Arabic/Arbi (2) Bengali (3) Konkani (4) Gorkhali/Nepali (5) Punjabi (6) Sindhi (7) Tulu.

Gorkhali/Nepali which comes under Indo-European family (Indo-Aryan branch) is spoken by 2,354 persons in the State. This is the mother-tongue of the Gurkhas who are engaged mostly as watchmen in offices and houses. Gurkhas serve in the armed forces also. Tibetan and Sikkim Bhotia which come under Tibeto-Chinese family have 35 and 5 speakers respectively in the State.

Foreign languages :

A number of foreign language speakers have been enumerated in Tamil Nadu. English is by far the most popular among the foreign mother-tongues. There are 30,117 persons whose mother-tongue is English.

Numerically strong languages/mother-tongues in the districts :

The proportion of Tamil speaking people to total population varies from 38.10 per cent in Nilgiris district to 97.31 per cent in Thanjavur district. In Nilgiris district, Malayalam speakers form 19.36 per cent and Kannada speaking

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people account for 31.92 per cent. In Table 6-3, the percentage composition of people speaking six major languages/mother-tongues is shown in respect of each district. Madras City, being a metropolis has a good mixture of people speaking different languages. The percentage of population speaking different languages/mother-tongues in this city are : Tamil—73.71, Telugu—12.03, Urdu—5.75, Malayalam—3.73. Gujarati—0.81 and Kannada—0.72.

Apart from Madras City and Nilgiris district, each of the following districts has smaller percentage of Tamil speaking people than the State average percentage of 84.51—Salem (84.15), Chengalpattu (83.76), North Arcot (82.65), Madurai (81.92), Coimbatore (69.00) and Dharmapuri (65.99). The districts of Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli and Ramanathapuram have more than 90 per cent of their population as Tamil speaking. In the case of Kanniyakumari also, the percentage (87.59) is above the State average.

In the case of Telugu, Coimbatore (18.85%), Dharmapuri (18.25%), Chengalpattu (12.08%), Madras (12.03%), Madurai (10.41%), Salem (10.15%) and North Arcot (9.81%) have a higher percentage of Telugu speakers than the State average of 8.74%. Ramanathapuram has 7.58% of its population as Telugu speaking. In Kanniyakumari district, only 2,365 persons (0.19%) are Telugu speakers. In fact, 22.9% of the Telugu speaking people are concentrated in Coimbatore district. In Madurai, North Arcot and Chengalpattu, 11.39%, 10.24% and 9.76% respectively of the total Telugu speaking population in the State are residing.

Whereas 2.56 per cent of the people of the State are Kannada speaking, the districts of Nilgiris, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore and Madurai have the following percentages of

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Kannada speaking people: 31.92, 10.48, 7.91 and 4.10 respectively. Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Madurai and Nilgiris districts account for 32.75 per cent, 16.65 per cent, 15.29 per cent and 14.92 per cent of the total Kannada speaking people in the State.

The highest percentage of Urdu speaking people who are mostly Muslims, is observed in North Arcot district (5.98%). This district accounts for 29.57 per cent of the total Urdu speaking people in the State. In Madras City, 5.75 per cent of people speak Urdu as mother-tongue. In Dharmapuri district, the percentage of Urdu speaking people (4.41%) is more than what it is for the State (1.84%). The number of Urdu speaking people in Kanniyakumari district is only 329 (0.03%).

The percentage of Malayalam speakers in Kanniyakumari, Coimbatore, Nilgiris and Madras City to total Malayalam speaking people in the State are 26.22, 20.85, 17.10 and 16.47. These four districts account for 80.6 per cent of the Malayalam speakers in the State.

Whereas Malayalam speaking people form 1.36 per cent of the total population in the State, they form 19.36 per cent, 11.99 per cent, 3.73 per cent and 2.67 per cent of the total population in the districts of Nilgiris, Kanniyakumari, Madras and Coimbatore.

Gujarati speaking people form 2.36 per cent of the population in Madurai district as against the State average of 0.48 per cent. Of the total Gujarati speakers in the State

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46.64 per cent are concentrated in Madurai district. In Madras, Salem, Thanjavur and Ramanathapuram districts, they form more than 0.5% but less than one per cent of the total population. But these four districts together account for 38.13 per cent of the total Gujarati speaking people in the State.

Rural-Urban distribution of languages :

In the rural areas of this State 87.48 per cent are Tamil speaking, 8.36 Telugu speaking and 2.49 Kannada speaking. Together, the speakers of these three languages constitute 98.33 per cent of the rural population. In the urban areas, Tamil, Telugu and Kannada speakers form respectively 77.66, 9.61 and 2.73 per cent of the urban population. Together they cover only 90.00 per cent of the urban population. Table 6-4 gives the percentage of speakers of each of the languages/mother-tongues listed in the Eighth Schedule to the constitution to total population, rural-urban-wise. Table 6-5 gives the percentage distribution of population speaking major languages/mother-tongues in rural and urban areas.

As is to be expected, cities are more cosmopolitan in linguistic composition. We already saw that in Madras City speakers of Tamil, Telugu, Urdu and Malayalam languages constitute 73.71 per cent, 12.03 per cent, 5.75 per cent and 3.73 per cent respectively. In the cities of Coimbatore, Singanallur and Salem, the percentages of Tamil speaking people are 51.28, 55.60 and 59.33 respectively. Table 6-6 gives the percentage of population in the Class I cities speaking the first six numerically strong languages.

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TABLE 6-1

Number of Persons Speaking Languages (inclusive of Mother-Tongue) Specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India

Sl. No.	Name of the language	Total No. of speakers	Males	Females	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assamese	134	96	38	N
2.	Bengali	3,615	2,255	1,360	0.01
3.	Gujarati	199,045	100,482	98,563	0.48
4.	Hindi	77,445	43,313	34,132	0.19
5.	Kannada	1,056,512	531,497	525,015	2.56
6.	Kashmiri	94	53	41	N
7.	Malayalam	559,186	311,713	247,473	1.36
8.	Marathi	59,965	30,850	29,115	0.15
9.	Oriya	422	276	146	N
10.	Punjabi	5,018	2,973	2,045	0.01
11.	Sanskrit	254	152	102	N
12.	Sindhi	8,353	4,267	4,086	0.02
13.	Tamil	34,817,421	17,570,237	17,247,184	84.51
14.	Telugu	3,600,078	1,814,331	1,785,747	8.74
15.	Urdu	759,607	388,055	371,552	1.84

N—Negligible percentage.

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TABLE 6-2

Number of Persons Speaking Languages/Mother-Tongues (Inclusive of Mother-Tongue where Grouped) other than Those Included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India

Sl. No.	Name of the language	Total No. of speakers	Males	Females	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Angami	1	1	..	N
2.	Arabic/Arbi	1,228	634	594	N
3.	Balti	2	2	..	N
4.	Chinese/Chini	259	194	65	N
5.	Coorgi/Kodagu	288	188	100	N
6.	Dogri	135	114	21	N
7.	English	30,117	15,378	14,739	0.07
8.	Gorkhali/Nepali	2,354	1,718	636	0.01
9.	Khasi	4	3	1	N
10.	Konkani	5,908	3,008	2,900	0.01
11.	Kurukh/Oraon	2	2	..	N
12.	Lahnda	20	8	12	N
13.	Lotha	1	1	..	N
14.	Lushai/Mizo	1	1	..	N
15.	Manipuri/Meithei	21	18	3	N
16.	Naga	1	1	..	N
17.	Nicobarese	5	1	4	N
18.	Persian	187	96	91	N
19.	Santali	3	1	2	N
20.	Sikkim Bhotia	5	3	2	N
21.	Tibetan	35	21	14	N
22.	Tulu	3,837	1,977	1,860	0.01
23.	Others	7,605	4,101	3,504	0.02

N—Negligible percentage.

TABLE 6-3
Number of Persons Speaking the First Six Major Mother-Tongues/Languages
(inclusive of Mother-Tongues where Grouped) in the State and Districts

Sl. No.	State/District	Tamil			Telugu			Kannada		
		Total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
	TAMIL NADU	41,199,168	34,817,421	84.51	3,600,078	8.74	1,056,512	2.56		
1.	Madras	2,469,449	1,820,274	73.71	297,188	12.03	17,703	0.72		
2.	Chengalpattu	2,907,599	2,435,409	83.76	351,209	12.08	8,215	0.28		
3.	North Arcot	3,755,797	3,103,986	82.65	368,494	9.81	27,749	0.74		
4.	South Arcot	3,617,723	3,388,050	93.65	139,677	3.86	7,425	0.21		
5.	Dharmapuri	1,677,775	1,107,156	65.99	306,205	18.25	175,882	10.48		
6.	Salem	2,992,616	2,518,298	84.15	303,778	10.15	92,348	3.09		
7.	Coimbatore	4,373,178	3,017,666	69.00	824,302	18.85	345,968	7.91		
8.	Nilgiris	494,015	188,221	38.10	31,004	6.28	157,672	31.92		
9.	Madurai	3,938,197	3,226,045	81.92	409,952	10.41	161,506	4.10		
10.	Tiruchirappalli	3,848,816	3,572,245	92.81	176,967	4.60	18,198	0.47		
11.	Thanjavur	3,840,732	3,737,312	97.31	46,426	1.21	4,018	0.10		
12.	Ramanathapuram	2,860,207	2,584,976	90.38	216,913	7.58	34,070	1.19		
13.	Tirunelveli	3,200,515	3,047,001	95.20	125,598	3.92	5,009	0.16		
14.	Kanniyakumari	1,222,549	1,070,782	87.59	2,365	0.19	749	0.06		

TABLE 6-3—(Contd.)
Number of Persons Speaking the First Six Major Mother-Tongues/Languages
(Inclusive of Mother-Tongues where Grouped) in the State and Districts

Sl. No.	State/District	Urdu			Malayalam			Gujarati		
		No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	No. of speakers as mother-tongue	% to total population	
1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15			
TAMIL NADU										
1.	Madras	759,607	1.84	559,186	1.36	199,045	0.48			
2.	Chengalpattu	141,896	5.75	92,081	3.73	19,913	0.81			
3.	North Arcot	48,849	1.68	34,749	1.20	3,828	0.13			
4.	South Arcot	224,613	5.98	6,137	0.16	5,091	0.14			
5.	Dharmapuri	66,566	1.84	9,055	0.25	845	0.02			
6.	Salem	73,935	4.41	2,425	0.14	175	0.01			
7.	Coimbatore	44,680	1.49	10,677	0.36	17,997	0.60			
8.	Nilgiris	48,539	1.11	116,617	2.67	3,743	0.09			
9.	Madurai	9,618	1.95	95,638	19.36	305	0.06			
10.	Tiruchirappalli	28,464	0.72	13,538	0.34	92,843	2.36			
11.	Thanjavur	46,030	1.20	15,601	0.41	9,116	0.24			
12.	Ramanathapuram	15,108	0.39	5,884	0.15	22,340	0.58			
13.	Tirunelveli	3,888	0.14	3,302	0.12	15,674	0.55			
14.	Kanniyakumari	7,092	0.22	6,865	0.21	6,082	0.19			
		329	0.03	146,617	11.99	1,053	0.09			

TABLE 6-4

Number of Persons Speaking Languages (Inclusive of Mother-Tongues) Specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India in Rural and Urban Areas

Sl. No.	Language/Mother-tongue	Rural		Urban	
		No. of speakers	Percentage to rural population	No. of speakers	Percentage to urban population
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assamese	23	N	111	N
2.	Bengali	420	N	3,195	0.03
3.	Gujarati	10,760	0.04	188,285	1.51
4.	Hindi	14,987	0.05	62,458	0.50
5.	Kannada	715,864	2.49	340,648	2.73
6.	Kashmiri	11	N	83	N
7.	Malayalam	211,382	0.74	347,804	2.79
8.	Marathi	16,786	0.06	43,179	0.35
9.	Oriya	74	N	348	N
10.	Punjabi	225	N	4,793	0.04
11.	Sanskrit	125	N	129	N
12.	Sindhi	46	N	8,307	0.07
13.	Tamil	25,136,600	87.48	9,680,821	77.66
14.	Telugu	2,402,823	8.36	1,197,255	9.61
15.	Urdu	217,049	0.76	542,558	4.35
16.	Other languages	7,159	0.02	44,860	0.36

N—Negligible percentage.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 6-5
Percentage Distribution of Population in Rural and Urban Areas under Each
Major Mother-Tongue

Sl. No.	Mother-tongue	Total	Total percentage	Rural	Percentage to total	Urban	Percentage to total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Tamil	34,817,421	100.00	25,136,600	72.20	9,680,821	27.80
2.	Telugu	3,600,078	100.00	2,402,823	66.74	1,197,255	33.26
3.	Kannada	1,056,512	100.00	715,864	67.76	340,648	32.24
4.	Urdu	759,607	100.00	217,049	28.57	542,558	71.43
5.	Malayalam	559,186	100.00	211,382	37.80	347,804	62.20
6.	Gujarati	199,045	100.00	10,760	5.41	188,285	94.59
7.	Hindi	77,445	100.00	14,987	19.35	62,458	80.65
8.	Marathi	59,965	100.00	16,786	27.99	43,179	72.01
9.	English	30,117	100.00	1,458	4.84	28,659	95.16
10.	Sindhi	8,353	100.00	46	0.55	8,307	99.45
11.	Konkani	5,908	100.00	236	3.99	5,672	96.01
12.	Punjabi	5,018	100.00	225	4.48	4,793	95.52
13.	Tulu	3,837	100.00	1,039	27.08	2,798	72.92
14.	Bengali	3,615	100.00	420	11.62	3,195	88.38
15.	Gorkhali/Nepali	2,354	100.00	407	17.29	1,947	82.71
16.	Arabic/Arbi	1,228	100.00	365	29.72	863	70.28

TABLE 6-6
Percentage of Persons Speaking Each of the Six Major Mother-Tongues to Total
Population in Respect of Class-I Cities

Sl. No.	Mother-tongue	Madras	Kanchi- puram	Vellore	Cudda- lore	Salem	Erode	Tiruppur	Coimba- tore		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1.	Tamil	.	.	73.71	80.61	70.05	87.61	59.33	81.44	71.15	51.28
2.	Telugu	.	.	12.03	10.18	8.74	7.59	16.66	8.42	11.79	22.95
3.	Kannada	.	.	0.72	1.52	0.26	0.55	10.85	2.47	9.69	7.14
4.	Urdu	.	.	5.75	2.84	18.39	2.90	6.37	3.69	3.26	2.84
5.	Malayalam.	.	.	3.73	0.58	1.16	0.59	1.23	2.92	3.24	12.79
6.	Gujarati	.	.	0.81	2.57	0.11	0.05	4.92	0.24	0.22	0.69

Sl. No.	Mother-tongue	Singana- Ilur	Dindigul	Madurai	Tiruchira- palli	Kumba- konam	Thanja- vur	Tuticorin	Tirunel- veli	Nager- coil	
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
1.	Tamil	.	55.60	79.11	74.65	79.92	84.40	85.22	95.51	94.29	93.79
2.	Telugu	.	28.89	10.17	7.20	6.90	3.94	4.39	2.65	2.30	0.89
3.	Kannada	.	9.73	0.65	0.52	0.35	0.83	0.26	0.09	0.44	0.20
4.	Urdu	.	0.57	2.09	3.09	7.94	1.51	3.49	0.94	1.98	0.15
5.	Malayalam	.	4.83	0.83	0.88	1.46	0.54	0.84	0.41	0.44	4.09
6.	Gujarati	.	0.11	6.77	13.10	2.14	7.13	3.75	0.05	0.24	0.68

CHAPTER VII

The Religions we follow

Ours is a land of many faiths. Yet we all live in harmony. For data on religion which may be described as the basic cultural characteristic of our population, one has to turn to the census, the chief source.

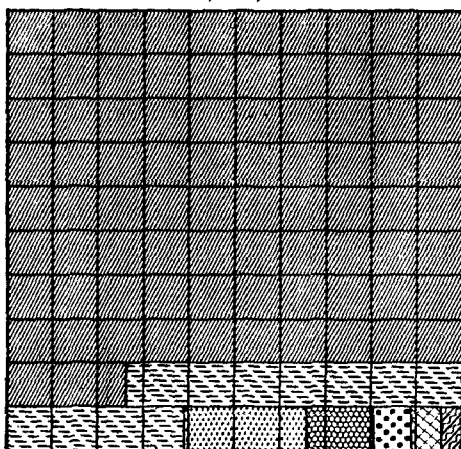
In the 1971 census, one's religion was asked and recorded against the tenth question in the individual slip. The enumerators were instructed that if a person informed him that he had no religion, it might be recorded accordingly. They were also asked not to mistake religion for caste.

Table 7-1 gives the population under major religions in India and Tamil Nadu. Hindus form 89 per cent of the population of Tamil Nadu as against 82.7 per cent in the country as a whole. Whereas Christians who form 5.75 per cent of the population take the second position in the State. Muslims (11.2 per cent) constitute the second major religious community in India. In the country as a whole, Christians come third with 2.6 per cent of the population. Muslims (5.1 per cent) form the third major religious community in the State.

There are only 4,355 Sikhs in Tamil Nadu out of 10,378,891 Sikhs in the country. Buddhism has only 1,148 followers in the State whereas there are 3,874,942 in the country. The Jains in the State (41,097) form 1.58 per cent of the Jain population in India (2,604,837).

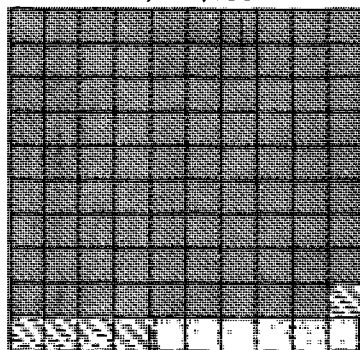
POPULATION BY MAJOR RELIGIONS 1971

548,159,652



INDIA

41,199,168



TAMIL NADU

EACH SMALL SQUARE REPRESENTS 1.00 % OF THE POPULATION

-  Hindus
-  Muslims
-  Christians
-  Sikhs
-  Buddhists
-  Jains
-  Others

Position in the districts :

Hindus form the bulk of the population in all the districts, the percentage ranging from 56.8 per cent in Kanniyakumari district to 96.6 per cent in Salem district. Table 7-2 gives the percentage of population under each religion to total population in the districts separately for rural and urban areas.

Next to Hinduism comes Islam in the following districts: Madras, North Arcot, South Arcot, Dharmapuri, Salem, Coimbatore, Thanjavur and Ramanathapuram. In the remaining districts it is Christianity which holds the second position. In the district of Kanniyakumari, 38.9 per cent of the population are Christians. Whereas the percentage of Muslims ranges from 2.1 in Salem district to 9.7 in the Nilgiris, the percentage of Christians ranges from 1.1 in Dharmapuri district to 38.9 in Kanniyakumari district. In the district of Tirunelveli, Christians account for 12.5 per cent of the population.

Table 7-3 gives the percentage of persons in each district to total in the State in each religion. Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirapalli account for 11.1 per cent, 9.8 per cent and 9.4 per cent respectively of Hindu population in the State. Madras, North Arcot, Thanjavur and Tirunelveli together account for 45 per cent of the Muslim population in the State. Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari account for 37 per cent of the Christian population in the State. 81 per cent of the Sikh population in this State are spread over the districts of Madras, Chengalpattu, Coimbatore and Tiruchirapalli. Madras City has 59 per cent of the Buddhist population in the State and South Arcot accounts for 14 per cent of the Buddhists in the State. Madras, North Arcot and South Arcot account for 81 per cent of the Jains in the State.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

Rural-urban differential :

In the State as a whole, it is observed that Hindus form a considerably higher percentage in rural areas than in urban areas—91.7 per cent and 82.8 per cent respectively. The minority communities form a higher percentage in urban areas than in rural areas. This is but natural since the urban population is relatively more cosmopolitan than the rural population. Thus Muslims form 10.1 per cent of the urban population of the State whereas, they constitute only 3.0 per cent of the rural population. In the rural areas 5.3 per cent of the population are Christians and in urban areas 6.8 per cent are Christians.

The rural and urban population of Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains are as follows :—

Religious community	Population		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Sikhs	4,355	503	3,852
Buddhists	1,148	94	1,054
Jains	41,097	12,609	28,488

Sikhs who are mostly migrants to the South from Punjab and other North Indian States have migrated more into the urban areas than rural areas. The numbers of Buddhists and Jains are considerably higher in urban areas than in rural areas.

In Madras City, 84.1 per cent of the population are Hindus. Muslims and Christians form 8.5 and 6.6 per cent respectively. Being a leading city of the State, each of the groups Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains form a percentage higher than that for the urban areas of the State as a whole. In Madras City these three groups form 0.05, 0.03 and 0.69 per cent respectively and in the urban areas of the State as a whole, the corresponding percentages are 0.03, 0.01 and 0.23.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

Proportion of population under each religion in 1961 and 1971 :

Hindus accounted for 89.94 per cent of the population of Tamil Nadu in 1961. In 1971 the proportion has slightly reduced to 89.02. During the decade 1961—71, the Hindu population has increased by 21.05 per cent whereas the general population has increased by 22.3 per cent. At all-India level also, the percentage of Hindu population to total population has decreased from 83.51 per cent in 1961 to 82.72 per cent in 1971. In Tamil Nadu the percentage of Muslim population to total population was 4.63 in 1961 and it has increased to 5.11 in 1971. The decadal percentage growth of Muslim population is 34.8 in the State. In India as a whole, the percentage of Muslim population to total population has increased from 10.70 per cent in 1961 to 11.20 per cent in 1971. The proportion of Christians in Tamil Nadu has also increased from 5.23 per cent in 1961 to 5.75 per cent in 1971. The Christian population has increased by 34.3 per cent during 1961—71 in the State. The percentage of Christian population to total population in India as a whole, has increased from 2.44 per cent in 1961 to 2.60 per cent in 1971.

Sex ratio among religious communities :

Whereas the sex ratio, that is, females per 1,000 males is 978 for the entire population in the State, it is 976 for Hindus, 994 for Muslims and 995 for Christians. The sex ratio among the people belonging to the major religions is considerably less than that among the two religious communities, Muslims and Christians.

The sex ratio among Sikhs is 586 and this low sex ratio can be explained by the fact that the Sikhs who are migrants to the State are predominantly males. The sex ratios of Jains and Buddhists are respectively 869 and 547.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 7-1
Population under Major Religions in India and Tamil Nadu

Religion	1	India			Tamil Nadu		
		Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
		2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Hindus	.	453,436,630	234,916,130	218,520,500	36,674,150	18,557,339	18,116,811
2. Muslims	.	61,418,269	31,962,050	29,456,219	2,103,899	1,054,906	1,048,993
3. Christians	.	14,225,045	7,162,727	7,062,318	2,367,749	1,186,675	1,181,074
4. Sikhs	.	10,378,891	5,583,926	4,794,965	4,355	2,746	1,609
5. Buddhists	.	3,874,942	1,975,338	1,899,604	1,148	742	406
6. Jains	.	2,604,837	1,342,982	1,261,855	41,097	21,990	19,107

TABLE 7-2
Percentage of Population under each Religion to Total Population in the Districts
for Rural and Urban Areas

Sl. No.	State/District	Total Rural Urban	Hindus	Muslims	Chris- tians	Sikhs	Buddhi- sts	Jains	Others	Reli- gion not stated
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	TAMIL NADU									
		T	89.02	5.11	5.75	0.01	N	0.10	0.01	N
		R	91.71	2.95	5.28	N	N	0.04	0.02	N
		U	82.82	10.08	6.82	0.03	0.01	0.23	0.01	N
1.	Madras	T	84.09	8.51	6.62	0.05	0.03	0.69	0.01	..
		U	84.09	8.51	6.62	0.05	0.03	0.69	0.01	..
2.	Chengalpattu	T	92.89	2.86	4.09	0.04	N	0.12	N	..
		R	95.21	1.78	2.97	0.01	N	0.03	..	..
		U	88.52	4.88	6.19	0.10	0.01	0.30	..	..
3.	North Arcot	T	90.58	6.51	2.64	N	N	0.27	N	N
		R	95.04	2.44	2.26	N	N	0.25	0.01	N
		U	73.66	21.93	4.07	0.01	N	0.32	0.01	..
4.	South Arcot	T	92.49	3.66	3.65	N	0.01	0.17	0.02	N
		R	93.56	2.79	3.49	N	N	0.14	0.02	N
		U	86.06	8.96	4.59	0.01	0.02	0.31	0.05	..
5.	Dharmapuri	T	94.28	4.60	1.07	N	N	N	0.01	0.04
		R	95.70	3.28	0.98	N	N	N	N	0.04
		U	79.09	18.71	1.99	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.14	..
6.	Salem	T	96.62	2.06	1.30	N	N	0.01	0.01	N
		R	98.08	0.86	1.05	N	N	N	0.01	N
		U	92.57	5.37	2.01	0.01	N	0.03	0.01	..
7.	Coimbatore	T	93.42	3.48	3.05	0.01	N	0.03	0.01	..
		R	97.18	1.21	1.59	0.01	..	N	0.01	..
		U	86.63	7.57	5.69	0.03	N	0.08	N	..

TABLE 7-2—(Contd.)
Percentage of Population under each Religion to Total Population in the Districts for Rural and Urban Areas

Sl. No.	State/District	Total Rural Urban	Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Sikhs	Buddhists	Jains	Others	Religion not stated
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8.	Nilgiris	T	76.44	9.66	13.62	0.04	0.01	0.22	0.01	..
		R	85.04	5.10	9.84	0.01	..	0.01	N	..
9.	Madurai	U	67.58	14.36	17.52	0.07	0.01	0.44	0.02	..
		T	90.88	4.54	4.57	N	N	N	0.01	N
		R	93.94	2.53	3.53	N	N	..	N	N
10.	Tiruchirapalli	U	84.84	8.51	6.62	0.01	N	0.01	0.01	N
		T	89.63	4.57	5.75	0.01	N	0.01	0.03	N
		R	92.62	2.47	4.88	N	N	..	0.03	N
11.	Thanjavur	T	79.21	11.87	8.77	0.06	N	0.04	0.05	..
		R	88.91	6.88	4.11	N	N	0.03	0.07	N
		U	90.30	5.71	3.93	N	N	N	0.06	N
12.	Ramanathapuram	T	83.56	11.42	4.82	0.01	0.01	0.11	0.07	..
		R	87.36	6.98	5.65	N	..	N	0.01	..
		U	88.51	5.29	6.19	N	..	N	0.01	..
13.	Tirunelveli	T	84.10	11.77	4.12	N	..	N	0.01	..
		R	80.47	7.02	12.51	N	N	N	N	N
		U	83.84	3.68	12.48	N	N	..	N	N
14.	Kanniyakumari	T	73.37	14.05	12.57	N	N	0.01	N	..
		R	56.81	4.28	38.90	0.01	N	N	N	..
		U	55.75	3.19	41.06	..	N	N	N	..
		U	62.07	9.72	28.19	0.02	N	N	N	..

N—denotes negligible percentage

TABLE 7-3
Percentage Distribution of Population of each Major Religious Community
among the Districts

State/District	Total popula- tion	Hindus	Mus- lims	Chris- tians	Sikhs	Budd- hists	Jains	Others	Reli- gion not stated
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
TAMIL NADU	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
1. Madras	5.99	5.66	9.98	6.91	30.10	59.06	41.76	2.30	..
2. Chengalpattu	7.06	7.37	3.95	5.02	24.66	8.54	8.76	0.54	..
3. North Arcot	9.12	9.28	11.61	4.19	2.50	2.44	24.46	2.14	0.29
4. South Arcot	8.78	9.13	6.30	5.57	2.60	14.20	14.54	13.70	1.31
5. Dharmapuri	4.07	4.31	3.67	0.75	0.41	2.44	0.17	3.88	88.26
6. Salem	7.26	7.88	2.92	1.65	1.38	0.35	0.78	3.85	0.15
7. Coimbatore	10.62	11.14	7.23	5.63	14.60	2.35	3.02	4.66	..
8. Nilgiris	1.20	1.03	2.27	2.84	4.43	1.57	2.65	0.84	..
9. Madurai	9.56	9.76	8.50	7.60	2.89	1.57	0.39	3.22	4.93
10. Tiruchirapalli	9.34	9.41	8.36	9.34	11.60	2.35	0.85	19.93	1.30
11. Thanjavur	9.32	9.31	12.56	6.67	2.46	3.74	2.36	40.64	1.30
12. Ramanathapuram	6.94	6.81	9.49	6.83	0.74	..	0.04	3.11	..
13. Tirunelveli	7.77	7.02	10.67	16.91	0.60	1.13	0.21	1.07	2.46
14. Kanniyakumari	2.97	1.89	2.49	20.09	1.03	0.26	0.01	0.12	..

CHAPTER VIII

Castes and Tribes scheduled under the Constitution

Who are the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ? .

Scheduled Castes refer to such castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within such castes, races or tribes as are declared to be Scheduled Castes by the President of India by public notification under Article 341(1) of the Constitution of India. Similarly, Scheduled Tribes mean tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are declared by the President to be Scheduled Tribes under Article 342(1) of the Constitution. A list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu contained in the President's order which formed the basis for the 1971 census is reproduced in Appendix-I.

The basis for the declaration by the President that a particular caste or tribe is scheduled is not untouchability. It, however, goes without saying that the Scheduled Castes represent those communities which suffer or have suffered from untouchability in one form or other chiefly by birth or caste or by the profession which they practise and have been subjected to social disabilities. Bulk of the Scheduled Tribes live in forest areas more or less in seclusion as in islands in the river of progress.

Constitutional provisions :

It is common knowledge that ever since India attained Independence in 1947, Governments both at the Centre and State levels have been trying their best to ameliorate the living conditions of this less fortunate section of the people.

Article 17 of the Constitution has expressly abolished untouchability and forbidden its practice in any form. There are weaker sections of people, in particular all the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who need protection from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. It has been laid down that one of the responsibilities of the State is to promote the educational and economic interest of such sections. Special provision has been made under Article 335 of the Constitution for considering the claims of members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in making appointments to services or posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.

Provision has been made under Article 338 (1) of the Constitution for the appointment of a Special Officer for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It has been enjoined that this Special Officer should investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution and report to the President on the working of these safeguards at such intervals as the President may direct.

Power was given to the President under Article 341 of the Constitution to specify the castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within castes, races or tribes which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Castes in relation to a State or Union Territory. Article 342 makes a similar provision in respect of Scheduled Tribes. Reservation of seats in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes was made under Articles 330, 332 and 334 of the Constitution for a period of ten years which was later extended by a special enactment.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

How the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe people were censused in 1971 ?

Question 11 in the Individual Slip relates to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe. Each enumerator was given the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes notified for Tamil Nadu in the Presidential order. It indicated the names of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the areas within the State where they are scheduled. The enumerator was instructed to ascertain if the person enumerated belonged to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe and if he did, the name of the Scheduled Caste or Tribe was recorded provided it found place in the list furnished.

According to the Presidential order, which formed the basis of the 1971 census, Tamil Nadu has 79 Scheduled Caste and 42 Scheduled Tribes. In the actual enumeration, however, 75 Scheduled Castes and 33 Scheduled Tribes only were returned. The following Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were not found in the State though listed in the Presidential order :—

Scheduled Castes : Perumannan, Ulladan, Vathiriyar and Pathiyar.

Scheduled Tribes : Kudiya, Eravallan, Hill Pulaya, Vishayan, Ulladan, Malai Arayan, Malayan, Palleyan and Malayarayar.

Population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :

According to the 1971 census, the population of Scheduled Castes in Tamil Nadu is 7,315,595 thus accounting for 17.8 per cent of the total population of the State. In India as a whole, there are 80,005,398 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes accounting for 14.6 per cent of the country's population. The Scheduled Caste population in

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

Tamil Nadu has increased by 20.6 per cent during the decade 1961-71, whereas it has increased by 24 per cent in the country as a whole, during that decade.

There are 311,515 persons who are Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu. The Scheduled Tribes form only 0.76 per cent of the total population of the State. In India as a whole, the Scheduled Tribes who number 38,015,162 form 6.9 per cent of the total population. The Scheduled Tribe population in the State has increased by 23.6 per cent during the decade 1961-71, whereas it has increased by 27.2 per cent in India as a whole, during that period. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes form 18.52 per cent of the population in Tamil Nadu and 21.54 per cent in India as a whole. Table 8-1 gives the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the various States and Union Territories of the country. It is in Punjab we find that Scheduled Castes form the highest percentage of 24.7. Barring Nagaland where there are no Scheduled Castes, the lowest percentage among States is in Meghalaya (0.38 per cent). Nagaland and Meghalaya, the hill States, have respectively 88.6 per cent and 80.5 per cent of their population as Scheduled Tribes. In Manipur and Tripura the percentages of Scheduled Tribe population are 31.2 and 29.0 respectively. Among the remaining States, Orissa has the highest percentage (23.11) of Scheduled Tribe population. Uttar Pradesh has only 0.2 per cent of its population as Scheduled Tribe.

Scheduled Caste population in the districts and Class I cities :

In Table 8-2 the Scheduled Caste population in the different districts and Class I cities of the State are given. It is observed that Chengalpattu district stands first in respect of percentage of Scheduled Caste population (26.3 per cent). Kanniyakumari district with 3.9 per cent of its population belonging to Scheduled Castes stands at the other

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

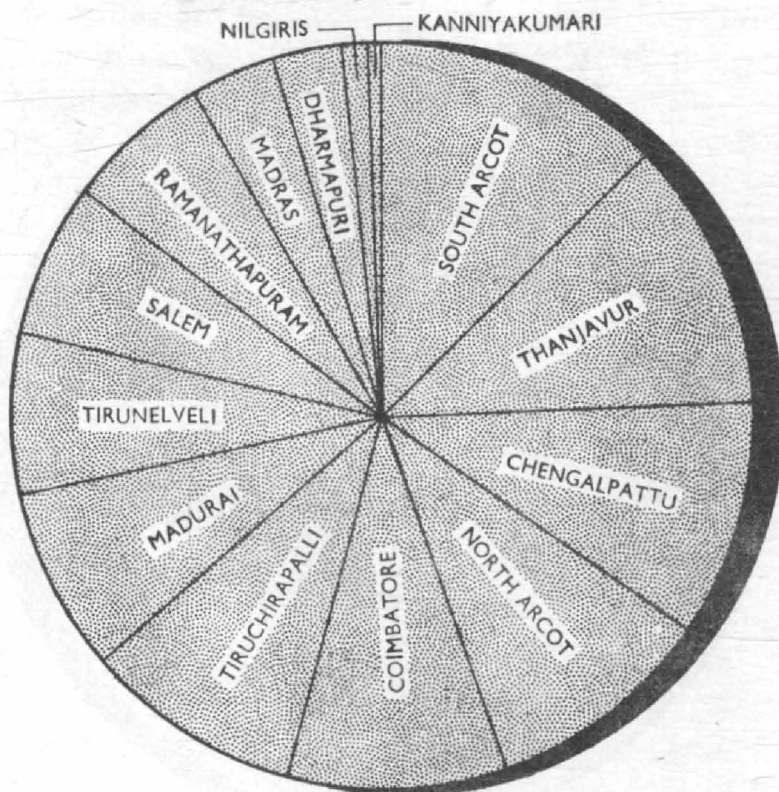
extreme. In Table 8-3 the percentage distribution of the Scheduled Caste population in the districts is shown. South Arcot contains 12.8 per cent of the Scheduled Castes population in the State. Thanjavur and Chengalpattu have respectively 11.6 and 10.4 per cent of the State's Scheduled Caste population. Other districts have each less than 10 per cent of the State's Scheduled Caste population. Kanniya-kumari has only 0.65 per cent of the Scheduled Caste population in the State.

In the State as a whole, out of 7.32 million Scheduled Caste population, 6.05 million (82.7 per cent) live in rural areas and 1.27 million (17.3 per cent) live in urban areas. In all districts except Nilgiris, the percentage of Scheduled Caste population is more in rural areas than in urban areas. This is due to the fact that the majority of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes eke out their living by cultivation and agricultural labour. In each of the districts of South Arcot, Dharmapuri and Thanjavur more than 90 per cent of the Scheduled Caste population are in rural areas. Table 8-2 also gives the percentage of Scheduled Castes population in the rural and urban areas of each district.

Scheduled Tribe population in the districts and Class I cities :

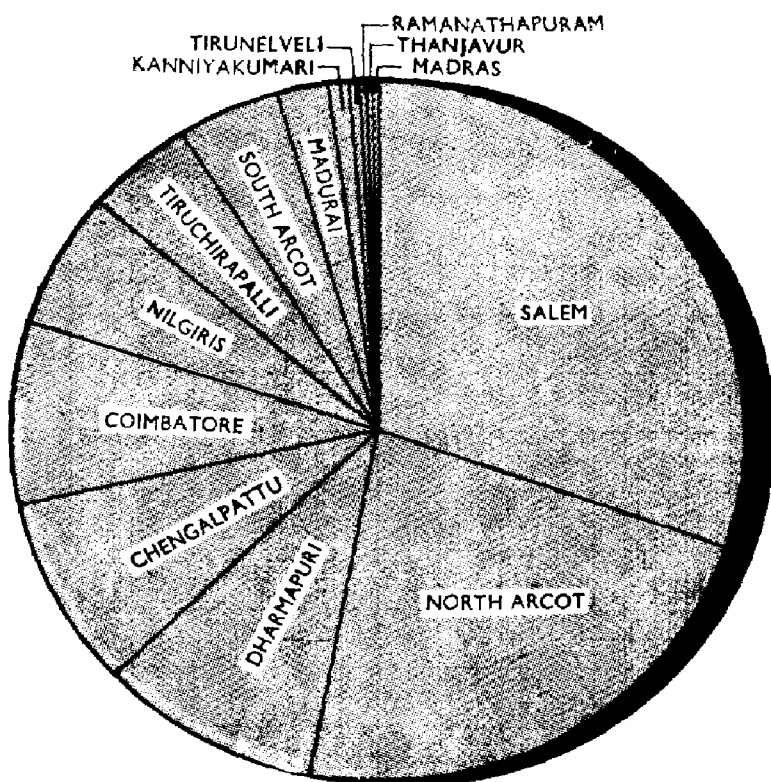
In Table 8-4 the Scheduled Tribe population in the different districts and Class I cities of the State are given. In Nilgiris district, Scheduled Tribes form 4.02 per cent of the total population. Next comes Salem district in which 3.15 per cent are Scheduled Tribes. In the two districts of North Arcot and Dharmapuri, Scheduled Tribes form 1 to 2 per cent of the population. In other districts, the Scheduled Tribes form less than one per cent of the district population—it is least in Thanjavur (0.03%). Table 8-5 shows the percentage of Scheduled Tribe population in each district to the total Scheduled Tribe population in the State.

SCHEDULED CASTES IN THE DISTRICTS 1971



TOTAL SCHEDULED CASTES : 7,315,595

SCHEDULED TRIBES IN THE DISTRICTS 1971



TOTAL SCHEDULED TRIBES : 311,515

Salem and North Arcot account for 30.3 and 22.7 per cent respectively of the Scheduled Tribe population in the State. In all other districts, it is less than 10 per cent. The percentage of Scheduled Tribe population in each of the following districts to total Scheduled Tribe population in the State is less than one per cent : Kanniyakumari (0.92%), Tirunelveli (0.52%), Ramanathapuram (0.34%), Thanjavur (0.33%) and Madras (0.3%).

As is to be expected, the Scheduled Tribes who are normally hill tribes are to be found in larger proportion in rural areas than in urban areas. 94.5 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population in the State are in rural areas. Whereas 1.02 per cent of the population in rural areas are Scheduled Tribes, only 0.14 per cent of the population are Scheduled Tribes in urban areas. As for Class I cities, Madras, Madurai, Kanchipuram and Tiruppur have only the following Scheduled Tribe population respectively :—928, 651, 378 and 128. The other cities have less than 100 persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes, the following cities having less than 10 :—Vellore, Erode, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur and Nagercoil. Table 8-4 also gives the percentages of Scheduled Tribe population in the rural and urban areas of each district.

Of the 75 Scheduled Castes enumerated, the four castes, Adi-Dravida, Parayan, Pallan and Chakkilivan together account for 85.8 per cent of all Scheduled Castes in the State. Among the 33 Scheduled Tribes enumerated, Malayali and Irular tribes account for 79.75 per cent of the tribal population.

Literacy level of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :

The percentages of literates among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State are 21.8 and 9.02 respectively as against the percentage of 39.5 among the general population. The percentages of literates among males and females are 32.2 and 11.3 for Scheduled Castes. For Scheduled Tribes the corresponding figures are 13.3 and 4.5.

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As for the general population, the percentage of literates among males is 51.8 and that among females is 26.9. This clearly indicates that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to make much headway in this regard. There is, however, a silver lining in the cloud. The percentage of literates among Scheduled Castes has increased from 17.2 per cent in 1961 to 21.8 per cent in 1971; that among Scheduled Tribes has increased from 6.9 per cent in 1961 to 9.02 per cent in 1971. Table 8-6 and 8-7 give an idea of the literates among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively in the State and districts, rural-urban-wise.

Successive Governments in Tamil Nadu have followed a three point programme of welfare for the Scheduled Castes or Harijans as they are called. These are education, economic development and health and rural housing. Most of the Harijans enjoy free education. Much work has been done for giving them free housing sites and helping them with funds for the building of houses. As the main occupation of the Harijan community in Tamil Nadu is agriculture, the State Government have been generous in granting them subsidy for the purchase of cows, bulls, seeds and agricultural implements. All the same, it has to be frankly admitted that all such measures have hardly touched the fringe of the colossal problem of the economic and social backwardness suffered from ages by all sections of the Harijan community.

APPENDIX—I

LIST OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES IN TAMIL NADU

SCHEDULED CASTES

(1) Throughout the State

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Chakkiliyan | 4. Pallan |
| 2. Kuravan, Sidhanar | 5. Paraiyan, Parayan (Sambavar) |
| 3. Nayadi | 6. Valluvan |

(2) Throughout the State except Kanniyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli District

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Adi-Andhra | 19. Holeya |
| 2. Adi-Dravida | 20. Jaggali |
| 3. Adi-Karnataka | 21. Jambuvulu |
| 4. Ajila | 22. Kadaian |
| 5. Arunthathiyar | 23. Kalladi |
| 6. Baira | 24. Karimpalan |
| 7. Bakuda | 25. Koosa |
| 8. Bandi | 26. Kudumban |
| 9. Bellara | 27. Madari |
| 10. Chalavadi | 28. Madiga |
| 11. Chamar or Muchi | 29. Maila |
| 12. Chandala | 30. Mala |
| 13. Cheruman | 31. Mavilan |
| 14. Devendrakulathan | 32. Moger |
| 15. Dom, Dombara, Paidi or Pano | 33. Mundala |
| 16. Godagali | 34. Nalakeyava |
| 17. Godda | 35. Pagadai |
| 18. Gosangi | 36. Pambada |

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SCHEDULED CASTES—(Contd.)

37. Panchama	42. Samban
38. Panniandi	43. Sapari
39. Puthirai Vannan	44. Semman
40. Raneyar	45. Thoti
41. Samagara	46. Tiruvalluvar

(3) In the Nilgiris District

Kanakkan or Padanna

(4) In Coimbatore and Salem Districts

(i) Pannadi (ii) Vathiriyar

(5) In Kanniyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli District

1. Ayyanavar	12. Pathiyan
2. Bharatar	13. Perumannan
3. Domban	14. Pulayan or Cheramar
4. Kakkalan	15. Thandan
5. Kavara	16. Ulladan
6. Kootan (Koodan)	17. Uraly
7. Mannan	18. Vallon
8. Padannan	19. Vannan
9. Palluvan	20. Velan
10. Panan	21. Vetan
11. Paravan	22. Vettuvan

(6) In Thanjavur District

(i) Koliyan

(ii) Vettiyan

SCHEDULED TRIBES

(1) Throughout the State

(i) Kadar

(ii) Irular

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SCHEDULED TRIBES—(Contd.)

(2) Throughout the State except Kanniyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli District

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Adiyar | 11. Kurumans |
| 2. Aranadan | 12. Maha Malasar |
| 3. Kammara | 13. Malasar |
| 4. Kattunayakan | 14. Malayekandi |
| 5. Kondakapus | 15. Mudugar or Muduvan |
| 6. Kondareddis | 16. Palliyan |
| 7. Koraga | 17. Paniyan |
| 8. Kota | 18. Pulayan |
| 9. Kudiya or Melakudi | 19. Sholaga |
| 10. Kurichchan | 20. Toda |

(3) In North Arcot, Salem and Tiruchirapalli Districts

Malayali

(4) In Coimbatore and Tirunelveli Districts (except Shencottah Taluk)

Kaniyan or Kanyan

(5) In Nilgiris District

Kurmbas

(6) In Kanniyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli District

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Eravallan | 10. Malayarayar |
| 2. Hill Pulaya | 11. Mannan |
| 3. Kanikaran or Kanikkar | 12. Muthuvan |
| 4. Kochu Velan | 13. Palleyan |
| 5. Malakkuravan | 14. Palliyar |
| 6. Malai Arayan | 15. Ulladan (Hill Dwellers) |
| 7. Malai Pandaram | 16. Uraly |
| 8. Malai Vedan | 17. Vishavan |
| 9. Malayan | |

TABLE 8-1
Population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the States and Union Territories

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	2	3	4	Percentage to total population	5	6	Percentage to total population	7
1	INDIA	.	.	.	548,159,652	80,005,398	14.60	38,015,162	6.94
	States								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	.	.	.	43,502,708	5,774,548	13.27	1,657,657	3.81
2.	Assam*	.	.	.	14,957,542	912,639	6.10	1,919,947	12.84
3.	Bihar	.	.	.	56,353,369	7,950,652	14.11	4,932,767	8.75
4.	Gujarat	.	.	.	26,697,475	1,825,432	6.84	3,734,422	13.99
5.	Haryana	.	.	.	10,036,808	1,895,933	18.89	..	..
6.	Himachal Pradesh	.	.	.	3,460,434	769,572	22.24	141,610	4.09
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	.	.	.	4,616,632	381,277	8.26	..	..
8.	Kerala	.	.	.	21,347,375	1,772,168	8.30	269,356	1.26
9.	Madhya Pradesh	.	.	.	41,654,119	5,453,690	13.09	8,387,403	20.14
10.	Maharashtra	.	.	.	50,412,235	3,025,761	6.00	2,954,249	5.86
11.	Manipur	.	.	.	1,072,753	16,376	1.53	334,466	31.18
12.	Meghalaya	.	.	.	1,011,699	3,887	0.38	814,230	80.48
13.	Mysore	.	.	.	29,299,014	3,850,034	13.14	231,268	0.79
14.	Nagaland	.	.	.	516,449	..	..	457,602	88.61
15.	Orissa	.	.	.	21,944,615	3,310,854	15.09	5,071,937	23.11
16.	Punjab	.	.	.	13,551,060	3,348,217	24.71	..	..

TABLE 8-1—(Contd.)
Population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the States and Union Territories

Sl. No.	India/State/Union Territory	Total population	Scheduled Caste population	Percentage to total population	Scheduled Tribes population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Rajasthan	25,765,806	4,075,580	15.82	3,125,506	12.13
18.	Sikkim	209,843	9,302	4.53	..	..
19.	Tamil Nadu	41,199,168	7,315,595	17.76	311,515	0.76
20.	Tripura	1,556,342	192,860	12.39	450,544	28.95
21.	Uttar Pradesh	88,341,144	18,548,916	21.00	198,565	0.22
22.	West Bengal	44,312,011	8,816,028	19.90	2,532,969	5.72
<i>Union Territories</i>						
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	115,133	..	..	18,102	15.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	467,511	339	0.07	369,408	79.02
3.	Chandigarh	257,251	29,073	11.30	..	..
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	74,170	1,332	1.80	64,445	86.89
5.	Delhi	4,065,698	635,698	15.64	..	..
6.	Goa, Daman and Diu	857,771	16,514	1.93	7,654	0.89
7.	Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands	31,810	..	..	29,540	92.86
8.	Pondicherry	471,707	72,921	15.46	..	..

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram

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TABLE 8-2
Scheduled Caste Population in the
Districts and Class I Cities

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Total population	Scheduled Caste population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5
TAMIL NADU	T	41,199,168	7,315,595	17.76
	R	28,734,334	6,050,302	21.06
	U	12,464,834	1,265,293	10.15
1. Madras . . .	T	2,469,449	259,119	10.49
	U	2,469,449	259,119	10.49
2. Chengalpattu . . .	T	2,907,599	763,991	26.28
	R	1,896,909	612,149	32.27
	U	1,010,690	151,842	15.02
3. North Arcot . . .	T	3,755,797	725,885	19.33
	R	2,972,702	628,430	21.14
	U	783,095	97,455	12.44
4. South Arcot . . .	T	3,617,723	937,894	25.92
	R	3,104,726	879,911	28.34
	U	512,997	57,983	11.30
5. Dharmapuri . . .	T	1,677,775	227,825	13.58
	R	1,533,834	216,708	14.13
	U	143,941	11,117	7.72
6. Salem . . .	T	2,992,616	480,317	16.05
	R	2,197,234	405,332	18.45
	U	795,382	74,985	9.43
7. Coimbatore . . .	T	4,373,178	688,271	15.74
	R	2,816,936	497,322	17.65
	U	1,556,242	190,949	12.27
8. Nilgiris . . .	T	494,015	92,694	18.76
	R	250,780	45,618	18.19
	U	243,235	47,076	19.35
9. Madurai . . .	T	3,938,197	587,874	14.93
	R	2,614,003	499,534	19.11
	U	1,324,194	88,340	6.67
10. Tiruchirapalli . . .	T	3,848,816	690,641	17.94
	R	2,991,808	617,806	20.65
	U	857,008	72,835	8.50
11. Thanjavur . . .	T	3,840,732	848,976	22.10
	R	3,052,694	792,797	25.97
	U	788,038	56,179	7.13

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 8-2
Scheduled Caste Population in the
Districts and Class I Cities

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Total population	Scheduled Caste population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5
12. Ramanathapuram	T R U	2,860,207 2,113,545 746,662	459,616 406,196 53,420	16.07 19.22 7.15
13. Tirunelveli	T R U	3,200,515 2,171,019 1,029,496	504,956 407,679 97,277	15.78 18.78 9.45
14. Kanniyakumari	T R U	1,222,549 1,018,144 204,405	47,536 4,0820 6,716	3.89 4.01 3.29

Class I city	Total population	Scheduled Caste population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
1. Madras	2,469,449	259,119	10.49
2. Kanchipuram	110,657	2,169	1.96
3. Vellore	139,082	13,496	9.70
4. Cuddalore	101,335	10,579	10.44
5. Salem	308,716	25,785	8.35
6. Tiruppur	113,302	5,929	5.23
7. Coimbatore	356,368	26,101	7.32
8. Erode	105,111	7,594	7.22
9. Singanallur	112,206	16,019	14.28
10. Dindigul	128,429	6,932	5.40
11. Madurai	549,114	22,144	4.03
12. Tiruchirapalli	307,400	18,768	6.11
13. Kumbakonam	113,130	3,912	3.46
14. Thanjavur	140,547	7,700	5.48
15. Tuticorin	155,310	7,830	5.04
16. Tirunelveli	108,498	6,696	6.17
17. Nagercoil	141,288	4,124	2.92

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 8-3

Percentage distribution of Scheduled Caste
Population among the Districts

Sl. No.	State/District	Scheduled Caste population	Percentage to total Scheduled Caste population in the State
1	2	3	4
	TAMIL NADU	7,315,595	100.00
1.	Madras	259,119	3.54
2.	Chengalpattu	763,991	10.44
3.	North Arcot	725,885	9.92
4.	South Arcot	937,894	12.82
5.	Dharmapuri	227,825	3.11
6.	Salem	480,317	6.57
7.	Coimbatore	688,271	9.41
8.	Nilgiris	92,694	1.27
9.	Madurai	587,874	8.04
10.	Tiruchirappalli	690,641	9.44
11.	Thanjavur	848,976	11.61
12.	Ramanathapuram	459,616	6.28
13.	Tirunelveli	504,956	6.90
14.	Kanniyakumari	47,536	0.65

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 8-4
Scheduled Tribe Population in the
Districts and Class I Cities

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Total population	Scheduled Tribe population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4	5
TAMIL NADU	T	41,199,168	311,515	0.76
	R	28,734,334	294,379	1.02
	U	12,464,834	17,136	0.14
1. Madras	T	2,469,449	928	0.04
	U	2,469,449	928	0.04
2. Chengalpattu	T	2,907,599	27,189	0.94
	R	1,896,909	23,354	1.23
	U	1,010,690	3,835	0.38
3. North Arcot	T	3,755,797	70,727	1.88
	R	2,972,702	69,382	2.33
	U	783,095	1,345	0.17
4. South Arcot	T	3,617,723	14,105	0.39
	R	3,104,726	13,832	0.45
	U	512,997	273	0.05
5. Dharmapuri	T	1,677,775	30,123	1.80
	R	1,533,834	29,524	1.92
	U	143,941	599	0.42
6. Salem	T	2,992,616	94,383	3.15
	R	2,197,234	94,061	4.28
	U	795,382	322	0.04
7. Coimbatore	T	4,373,178	26,021	0.60
	R	2,816,936	25,058	0.89
	U	1,556,242	963	0.06
8. Nilgiris	T	494,015	19,869	4.02
	R	250,780	13,904	5.54
	U	243,235	5,965	2.45
9. Madurai	T	3,938,197	6,707	0.17
	R	2,614,003	5,628	0.22
	U	1,324,194	1,079	0.08
10. Tiruchirapalli	T	3,848,816	14,907	0.39
	R	2,991,808	14,826	0.50
	U	857,008	81	0.01
11. Thanjavur	T	3,840,732	1,024	0.03
	R	3,052,694	721	0.02
	U	788,038	303	0.04
12. Ramanathapuram	T	2,860,207	1,056	0.04
	R	2,113,545	492	0.02
	U	746,662	564	0.08
13. Tirunelveli	T	3,200,515	1,614	0.05
	R	2,171,019	796	0.04
	U	1,029,496	818	0.08
14. Kanniyakumari	T	1,222,549	2,862	0.23
	R	1,018,144	2,801	0.28
	U	204,405	61	0.03

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 8-4—(Contd.)
Scheduled Tribe Population in the
Districts and Class I Cities

Class I city	Total population	Scheduled Tribe population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
1. Madras	2,469,449	928	0.04
2. Kanchipuram	110,657	378	0.34
3. Vellore	139,082	6	N
4. Cuddalore	101,335	22	0.02
5. Salem	308,716	19	0.01
6. Tiruppur	113,302	128	0.11
7. Coimbatore	356,368	61	0.02
8. Erode	105,111	2	N
9. Singanallur	112,206	..	..
10. Dindigul	128,429	19	0.02
11. Madurai	549,114	651	0.12
12. Tiruchirappalli	307,400	24	0.01
13. Kumbakonam	113,130	5	N
14. Thanjavur	140,547	4	N
15. Tuticorin	155,310	26	0.02
16. Tirunelveli	108,498	77	0.07
17. Nagercoil	141,288	3	N

N—Negligible percentage.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 8-5

Percentage Distribution of Scheduled Tribe
Population among the Districts

Sl. No.	State/District	Scheduled Tribe population	Percentage to total Scheduled Tribe population in the State
1	2	3	4
	TAMIL NADU	311,515	100.00
1.	Madras	928	0.30
2.	Chengalpattu	27,189	8.73
3.	North Arcot	70,727	22.70
4.	South Arcot	14,105	4.53
5.	Dharmapuri	30,123	9.67
6.	Salem	94,383	30.30
7.	Coimbatore	26,021	8.35
8.	Nilgiris	19,869	6.38
9.	Madurai	6,707	2.15
10.	Tiruchirapalli	14,907	4.78
11.	Thanjavur	1,024	0.33
12.	Ramanathapuram	1,056	0.34
13.	Tirunelveli	17,614	5.62
14.	Kanniyakumari	2,862	0.92

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

TABLE 8-6
Number of Literates among Scheduled
Castes in the State and Districts

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Sche- duled Caste popula- tion	No. of Literates	Percen- tage of Literates in 1971	Percen- tage of Literates in 1961
1	2	3	4	5	6
TAMIL NADU	T	7,315,595	1,596,254	21.82	17.20
	R	6,050,302	1,163,891	19.24	14.72
	U	1,265,293	432,363	34.17	31.07
1. Madras	T	259,119	113,846	43.94	46.80
	U	259,119	113,846	43.94	46.80
2. Chengalpattu	T	763,991	184,032	24.09	16.21
	R	612,149	126,105	20.60	14.34
	U	151,842	57,927	38.15	32.70
3. North Arcot	T	725,885	182,474	25.14	16.43
	R	628,430	143,917	22.90	14.39
	U	97,455	38,557	39.56	30.73
4. South Arcot	T	937,894	156,972	16.74	15.57
	R	879,911	141,544	16.09	15.12
	U	57,983	15,428	26.61	22.96
5. Dharmapuri	T	227,825	31,800	13.96	NA
	R	216,708	28,586	13.19	NA
	U	11,117	3,214	28.91	NA
6. Salem	T	480,317	83,973	17.48	10.91
	R	405,332	63,143	15.58	9.75
	U	74,985	20,830	27.78	22.66
7. Coimbatore	T	688,271	98,761	14.35	11.52
	R	497,322	48,240	9.70	7.18
	U	190,949	50,521	26.46	24.95
8. Nilgiris	T	92,694	29,751	32.10	22.47
	R	45,618	12,793	28.04	17.95
	U	47,076	16,958	36.02	27.11
9. Madurai	T	587,874	123,475	21.00	17.29
	R	499,534	97,343	19.49	15.87
	U	88,340	26,132	29.58	24.97
10. Tiruchirapalli	T	690,641	162,456	23.52	18.86
	R	617,806	134,975	21.85	17.56
	U	72,835	27,481	37.73	29.80

NA—Not available.

Nqte—Dharmapuri formed part of Salem District in 1961 and separate data for this district for 1961 are not available.

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TABLE 8-6—(Contd.)
Number of Literates among Scheduled
Castes in the State and Districts

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Sche- duled Caste popula- tion	No. of Literates	Percen- tage of Literates in 1971	Percen- tage of Literates in 1961
1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Thanjavur	T R U	848,976 792,797 56,179	175,275 160,794 14,481	20.65 20.28 25.78	15.97 15.51 22.28
12. Ramanathapuram	T R U	459,616 406,196 53,420	98,264 83,713 14,551	21.38 20.61 27.24	16.55 15.82 22.54
13. Tirunelveli	T R U	504,956 407,679 97,277	131,250 101,937 29,313	25.99 25.00 30.13	20.31 19.26 25.40
14. Kanniyakumari	T R U	47,536 40,820 6,716	23,925 20,801 3,124	50.33 50.96 46.52	42.74 43.03 40.83

TABLE 8-7
Number of Literates among Scheduled
Tribes in the State and Districts

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Schedul- ed Tribe Popula- tion	No. of Literates	Percen- tage of literates in 1971	Percen- tage of literates in 1961
1	2	3	4	5	6
TAMIL NADU	T R U	311,515 294,379 17,136	28,107 25,032 3,075	9.02 8.50 17.94	6.94 5.53 29.55
1. Madras	T U	928 928	429 429	46.23 46.23	44.55 44.55
2. Chengalpattu	T R U	27,189 23,354 3,835	1,372 1,007 365	5.05 4.31 9.52	5.46 5.21 7.33
3. North Arcot	T R U	70,727 69,382 1,345	4,479 4,364 115	6.33 6.29 8.55	4.61 4.56 8.58

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TABLE 8-7—(Contd.)
Number of Literates among Scheduled
Tribes in the State and Districts

State/District	Total Rural Urban	Sched- ed Tribe Popula- tion	No. of Literates	Percen- tage of literate in 1971	Percen- tage of literate in 1961
1	2	3	4	5	6
4. South Arcot	T R U	14,105 13,832 273	617 592 25	4.37 4.28 9.16	5.29 4.13 21.96
5. Dharmapuri	T R U	30,123 29,524 599	2,228 1,926 302	7.40 6.52 50.42	NA NA NA
6. Salem	T R U	94,383 94,061 322	9,589 9,453 136	10.16 10.05 42.24	4.97 4.94 75.68
7. Coimbatore	T R U	26,021 25,058 963	1,918 1,712 206	7.37 6.83 21.39	5.80 5.64 7.15
8. Nilgiris	T R U	19,869 13,904 5,965	3,029 2,358 671	15.24 16.96 11.25	26.17 11.68 60.54
9. Madurai	T R U	6,707 5,628 1,079	1,090 774 316	16.25 13.75 29.29	18.48 15.80 28.38
10. Tiruchirapalli	T R U	14,907 14,826 81	2,113 2,083 30	14.17 14.05 37.04	9.61 8.73 40.80
11. Thanjavur	T R U	1,024 721 303	152 59 93	14.84 8.18 30.69	13.39 14.61 ..
12. Ramanathapuram	T R U	1,056 492 564	234 87 147	22.16 17.68 26.06	22.27 10.00 26.40
13. Tirunelveli	T R U	1,614 796 818	413 205 208	25.59 25.75 25.43	18.18 14.14 21.98
14. Kanniyakumari	T R U	2,862 2,801 61	444 412 32	15.51 14.71 52.46	8.55 8.06 18.31

NA—Not available.

CHAPTER IX

Our Economic Activities

One of the main aims of the census is to find out how each person is occupied most of his time. Is he a worker or a non-worker? If he is a worker, what is his work? If a person is a non-worker, how does he spend his time? A variety of answers issue forth to the census question "What is your main activity?" The census enumerator comes across farmers, fishermen, factory workers, officers, unemployed persons, beggars, vagrants etc. The answers given by these people regarding their activity when compiled systematically sum up our economic progress.

Definition of Worker :

Let us now turn to definitions which are essential for a proper understanding of the figures. At the census every individual is basically classified as a worker or as a non-worker. It has, however, been not possible to evolve a uniform definition of work in our country, which, unlike the countries in the west, does not have an organised economy. As a result, every census had its own definition. Consequently data of no two censuses could be compared.

In the 1971 census, a worker was defined as a person whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by his physical or mental activity. Work involves not only actual work but effective supervision and direction of work. Question 16 in the individual slip related to the main activity and question 17 to secondary work. In Appendix-I details regarding the definition of worker adopted in 1971 and 1961 censuses are given.

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At the 1971 census, every individual was asked to say what according to him was his main activity. If his answer indicated that he was a worker, he was classified as a cultivator, agricultural labourer, worker in household industry or some other worker engaged in forestry, mining, manufacture, trade, transport, services etc. If a person returned himself as a non-worker, the enumerator asked him or her to state whether he or she was engaged in household duties, was a student, retired person or rentier, a dependent, a beggar or vagrant, inmate of a charitable or penal institution or other non-worker such as an unemployed person.

In addition, every one was asked to state if he or she attended to any secondary work. This was done with a view to get an idea of the marginal contribution to work force made by persons who had declared themselves as housewives, students etc. For instance a housewife who attended to weaving in her spare hours was supposed to have weaving as secondary work. A student who looked after a pan shop in his leisure hours had trade as his secondary work. The data presented in this volume relate only to main activity. Data based on secondary work are being compiled. The census data do not provide information on under-employment or unemployment as such.

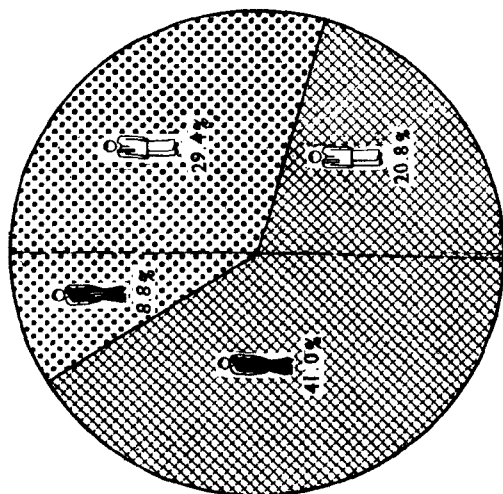
Experts opined that the 1961 definition of work was on the liberal side and had exaggerated participation rates. In that census a person was categorised basically as a worker even if such a person's contribution to work was extremely marginal. In respect of seasonal work like agriculture or household industry, if a person had put in even an hour's work a day, during the major part of a working season, such a person was treated as a worker.

Percentage of Workers :

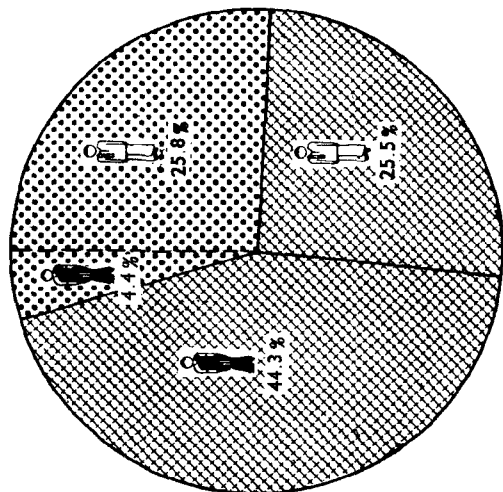
For the State as a whole, the overall participation rates in work recorded in 1971 census and the corresponding rates

WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS BY SEX 1971

RURAL



URBAN



WORKERS

NON - WORKERS

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of 1961 census are shown in Table 9-1. The percentage of workers to total population in the 1971 census is only 35.8 as against 45.6 per cent in 1961. Does it mean that people who were workers in 1961 have been thrown out of employment in 1971 ? No. This fall in the participation rate is due to conceptual difference.

As already detailed, persons who had returned their main activity as housewife, student etc., were treated as non-workers in 1971 census. It may be noted that female participation rate shows a big decline during 1961-71. The housewives who were all treated as workers on the basis of some very marginal contribution to work at the 1961 census, seem to have reported their main activity as housewives. But, if such persons had also indicated their marginal participation in any economic activity as secondary work, this will be revealed after the completion of processing of 1971 census data.

The percentage of workers and non-workers for each sex in 1971 are given for the State and also for each district in Table 9-2. Workers form 35.8% and non workers constitute 64.2% of the population in Tamil Nadu. The percentage of workers to the total population varies from 28.2% in Madras City to 40.9% in Coimbatore district. Excepting Madras and Kanniyakumari districts where the working population is less than 30%, all other districts have more than this percentage as workers. Dharmapuri, Salem, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli and Tirunelveli districts show a higher participation rate for workers than the State average. Considering the sexes separately, 56% of males are workers and among females 15.1% are workers in the State. In the districts of South Arcot, Dharmapuri, Salem, Coimbatore and Tiruchirapalli the proportion of male workers is higher than the State average. Among males the lowest participation rate of 49.1% is in Madras City. In the districts of Madras and Kanniyakumari, female workers show low percentages viz. 5.1% and 6.1% respectively of the female population.

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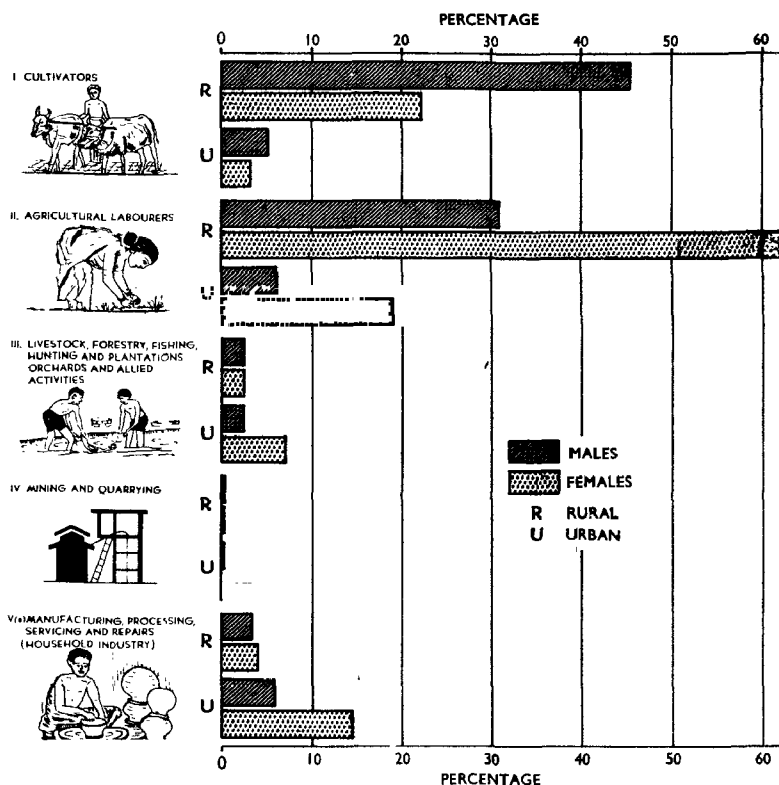
Female workers show higher proportion than the State average in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli. In these districts, household industries and agricultural and allied activities have greater demand for women workers.

Table 9-3 shows the distribution of workers in the State and districts under the following nine industrial categories : I. Cultivators, II. Agricultural Labourers, III. Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities, IV. Mining and Quarrying, V. Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs in (a) Household Industry (b) Other than Household Industry, VI. Construction, VII. Trade and Commerce, VIII. Transport, Storage and Communications and IX. Other Services.

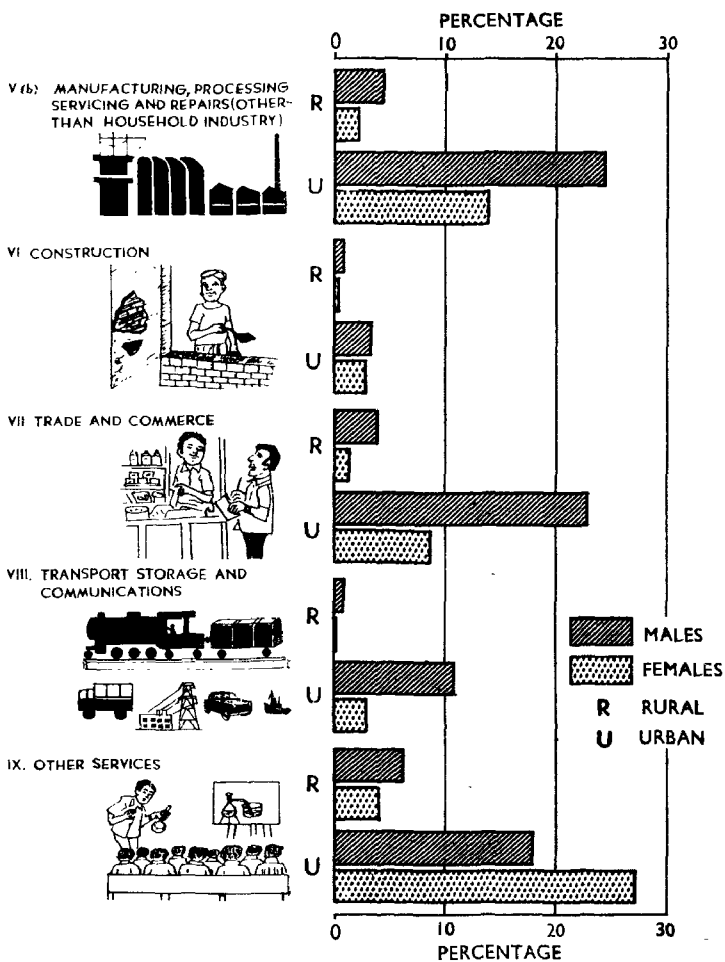
Distribution of workers along with percentage figures are presented for the rural and urban areas of the State in Table 9-4. About 62% of the total workers are engaged in agricultural activities (Cultivators-31.3% ; Agricultural Labourers-30.5%). Manufacturing, processing, servicing or repairs engages 13.3% of the working force. Workers in other services form 9.3% of the total working population. Trade and Commerce has 7.8% of the workers.

In the rural areas, 78.4% of the workers are engaged in agricultural activities. Manufacturing etc. account for 7.7% of the rural workers. A little less than 6% are engaged in other services in rural areas. In urban areas, manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs engages 29.7%. About 21% of urban workers come under trade and commerce while 19.4% are engaged in other services. Only 13.2% of the workers in urban areas are engaged in agricultural activities. The predominance of agricultural activities in the rural sector and the dominance of manufacturing, trade and commerce and other services in the urban parts can be seen from the above.

PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS BY CATEGORIES 1971



PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS BY CATEGORIES 1971



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The distribution of 1,000 workers in each district of the State under the nine industrial categories is shown in Table 9-5. The predominant role of agricultural activities in all the districts except Madras City and Nilgiris can be seen. In Madras City, manufacturing, trade and commerce, other services and transport and communications are prominent in view of the location of large industrial establishments and its position as the principal town of the State. Nilgiris district has large number of forest-based industries and plantations. In this district, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and other allied activities engages 53.3% of the workers. 13.7% of the workers in this district are engaged in other services. Kanniyakumari has also a higher percentage of workers in forestry, fishing etc., but not to the extent as in Nilgiris. Chengalpattu, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli have more than 10% of workers in the manufacturing etc. category. Dharmapuri and South Arcot are industrially backward districts and this is reflected in the lower percentage of workers in manufacturing (3.3% in Dharmapuri and 5.5% in South Arcot). Workers in construction is about 5% in Madras City and in all other districts this category is not significant. About one fourth of the workers in Madras City are in trade and commerce. In the districts of Dharmapuri and South Arcot, trade and commerce has less than 5% of the total workers. In other districts they are less than 10%. Madras City with 18.6% of the workers in transport, storage and communications is the only district prominent in this category. All other districts are having less than 5% of the workers in this industrial category. In the category 'other services' Madras

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City is prominent (23.3%). Three other districts which have more than 10% but less than 15% of workers in 'Other Services' are Nilgiris, Kanniyakumari and Chengalpattu.

What is the economic activity of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population ?

We have already discussed in an earlier chapter the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State and districts, their general literacy level etc. Let us now see what in general are their economic activities. In Table 9-6, the percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe working population in each of the industrial category is shown.

Scheduled Castes :

Among Scheduled Castes, 41.6 per cent are workers. This is higher than the participation rate among the general population (35.8%). This is due to larger participation of Scheduled Castes in agriculture. Among Scheduled Castes 57.9 per cent of males and 25.0 per cent of females are workers. As is to be expected, the majority of the Scheduled Caste working population (63.8%) are in agricultural labour. Cultivation has 18.4 per cent of these people. Thus, 82.2 per cent of the working population among Scheduled Castes are in agriculture. Other services, manufacturing other than household industry, livestock, forestry etc., and transport, storage and communications have respectively 5.3, 3.9, 3.0 and 2.2 per cent of the Scheduled Caste workers. In the rural areas, 89.9 per cent of the Scheduled Caste working population are in agriculture (i.e. cultivation and agricultural labour) as against 35.3 per cent in urban areas. In the urban areas, other services, manufacturing other than household industry and transport, storage and communications employ 17.9 per cent, 15.1 per cent and 12.4 per cent respectively.

Scheduled Tribes :

The percentage of workers among the Scheduled Tribes in the State is 44.1 which is higher than the corresponding percentage (41.6) among the Scheduled Castes. Among Scheduled Tribes 62.7 per cent of males and 24.5 per cent of females are workers. Among the Scheduled Tribe workers 82.2 per cent are in agriculture (44.9 per cent cultivators and 37.3 per cent agricultural labourers). The percentage of cultivators is more than that of agricultural labourers among the Scheduled Tribes in the rural areas which is not the case with the Scheduled Castes. Next to agriculture it is category III (Livestock, Forestry etc.) that employs considerable percentage of Scheduled Tribe workers. In the State as a whole, 10.63 per cent of Scheduled Tribe workers are in this category. In rural and urban areas, the corresponding percentages are 9.8 and 26.1. In the urban areas, 16.7 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population are in 'Other Services'.

APPENDIX—I

DEFINITION OF WORKER IN 1971 and 1961 CENSUSES—EXTRACTS FROM INSTRUCTIONS TO ENUMERATORS

1971 *Census* :

“Every person will be asked what his main activity is, that is, how he engages himself mostly. For the purpose of this question, all persons will get themselves divided into two broad streams of main activity namely, (1) as workers and (2) as non-workers according as the type of main activity that the person returns himself as engaged in mostly.

A ‘Worker’ is a person whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by his physical or mental activity. Work involves not only actual work but effective supervision and direction of work.

The reference period is one week prior to the date of enumeration in the case of regular work in trade, profession, service or business. If a person had participated in any such regular work on any one of the days during this reference period and this has been returned as his main activity, the person will be categorised accordingly. A person who normally works but had been absent from work during this reference period on account of illness or travel, holiday, temporary breakdown, strike etc. the person should be treated as engaged in regular work in which he would have otherwise been employed but for his temporary absence. Persons under training such as apprentices with or without stipends or wages should be considered as economically active and recorded as working. A person who has merely been offered work but has not actually joined it, is not to be treated as engaged in work.

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There are certain types of works which are not carried on throughout the year such as cultivation, livestock keeping, plantation work, some types of household industry, etc. A person's main activity should be ascertained with reference to such work in the last one year even if he was not economically active in the week prior to enumeration. It is likely that even when a person is engaged in some other work during the period of one week prior to the date of enumeration, the main activity of the person may be cultivation, agricultural labour or some other work attended to normally by him in the course of the year. Care must be taken to see that the main activity is properly ascertained in such cases. For example, a person's main activity may be agricultural labour and in the week prior to enumeration he may be engaged as a sugarcane factory labourer or as a road cooly. He should be categorised for his main activity as agricultural labourer only as returned by him as he engages himself mostly in that work and the other work should be treated as his subsidiary work.

A man or woman who is engaged primarily in household duties such as cooking for own household or performing one's own household duties or a boy or a girl who is primarily a student attending institution, even if such a person helps in the family economic activity but not as a full time worker should not be treated as a worker for the main activity. On the other hand, if a person is primarily engaged in some economic activity but at the same time does also attend to some household chores or attends a night school etc., he or she should be treated basically as a worker for the main activity and categorised accordingly.

A person who merely receives an income such as a rent receiver or a pensioner who does not have to work for receiving the income, will not be treated as economically active unless the person is also engaged in some economic activity and if that activity is returned as the main activity of the individual."

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1961 *Census* :

“The population of any country can be divided into workers and non-workers. Questions 8 to 11 apply to workers and their answers are of vital importance to our census statistics. A person may be working as cultivator or an agricultural labourer or in any household industry or may be engaged in doing some other work. The last named category will include persons who are engaged in productive activities other than cultivation, business, trade, communication or transport service or other miscellaneous services. In the case of persons who are employed during certain specified seasons only, as in cultivation, livestock, household industry, he will be regarded as worker, provided he has some regular work for more than an hour per day throughout the greater part of the working season. In the case of persons regularly employed in any trade, profession, service or business or commerce, he will be considered as a worker if he was employed during any of the 15 days preceding the day on which you make your visit to the household. The entries made against this question need not be revised even if the person is found to be unemployed during your second visit to the household for the revisional round from 1st March to 5th March 1961. A person who works but was absent from his work during the 15 days preceding the day on which he was enumerated due to illness or other causes should be treated as a worker. It should be remembered that work not only includes actual manual labour but also effective supervision and direction. For example, a person having few acres of land may be supervising and directing without ploughing and harvesting himself. Such a person has to be regarded as worker. Persons under training as apprentices with or without stipend will also be regarded as worker. A public or social worker engaged actively in public or social work or a political worker actively engaged in furthering the political aims of his party should also be regarded as a worker. Under-trial prisoners or persons who are in jail but have not been convicted by a

Court of Law may be regarded as workers if they were engaged in any of the activities, which are considered as work by our definition, before their arrest. Similarly persons who are admitted in hospitals or sanatoria may be considered as workers if they were engaged in activities which are considered as work before they were so admitted.

A person who has secured employment or has been offered a job but has not actually joined duty should be regarded as non-worker. Any adult woman engaged in household duties, however, useful it be, should not be considered as a worker. But if, in addition to her household duties, she is engaged in items of work like handpounding of rice, spinning of cotton, etc., which gives her some monetary reward either in cash or in kind or is employed on domestic duties for wages as servant-maid, ayah or cook or is employed in selling firewood, cutting and selling of grass, etc., she should be regarded as a worker.

Beggars, pensioners, rent or dividend receivers who may be earning an income but are not participating in any productive work should not be considered as workers, unless they are also engaged in industry, trade or commerce. Those persons, who are long-term inmates of penal, charitable or mental institutions, even though previously engaged in activities which satisfy our definition of work, should be regarded as non-workers.

After understanding the principles enunciated above regarding the classification of workers and non-workers you may now proceed to elicit answers to the questions. A person may be engaged in cultivation, in household industry or may be working as an agricultural labourer or doing some other work. He may be engaged in one of the above four categories or in more than one. A person working both as cultivator and agricultural labourer will be entered, as such, against questions 8 and 9. A person who is working both as cultivator and

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in household industry will be entered against questions 8 and 10. Persons working in any of the possible combination of cultivation, agricultural labour, household industry and other kinds of work will be entered in the appropriate places, as in the examples mentioned above. If a person is engaged in only one kind of work, he will be entered against one of the four questions 8 to 11. A person who is engaged in various kinds of work will necessarily have one item of work which he considers to be the predominant or principal work. It, therefore, becomes necessary to decide for the purpose of our enumeration, what work is his principal work and what is his subsidiary work. The principal work is defined for our purposes as one in which a person spends most of his working time and not the one from which he gets the maximum income.

After having collected the answers to questions 8 to 11, if you find any person with more than one productive activity you should ask him which one of the productive activity mentioned by him is his principal work. Put a ring round the number of the questions 8, 9, 10, 11 to indicate his answer."

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TABLE 9-1

Work Participation Rates in 1971 and 1961
for the State

Details	Years	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1. Percentage of total workers to total population	1971	35.8	38.2	30.2
	1961	45.6	49.6	34.4
2. Percentage of male workers to male population	1971	56.0	58.6	50.3
	1961	59.7	62.2	53.2
3. Percentage of female workers to female population	1971	15.1	17.6	9.1
	1961	31.3	37.1	14.9

TABLE 9-2

Percentage Distribution of Workers and Non-Workers

State/District	Workers			Non-workers		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
TAMIL NADU	35.8	56.0	15.1	64.2	44.0	84.9
1. Madras	28.2	49.1	5.1	71.8	50.9	94.9
2. Chengalpattu	33.7	54.5	11.8	66.3	45.5	88.2
3. North Arcot	35.5	55.8	14.6	64.5	44.2	85.4
4. South Arcot	34.7	57.0	11.7	65.3	43.0	88.3
5. Dharmapuri	36.4	58.1	14.0	63.6	41.9	86.0
6. Salem	39.5	59.7	18.6	60.5	40.3	81.4
7. Coimbatore	40.9	60.4	20.5	59.1	39.6	79.5
8. Nilgiris	38.8	50.9	26.1	61.2	49.1	73.9
9. Madurai	36.9	55.8	17.7	63.1	44.2	82.3
10. Tiruchirapalli	37.0	58.0	15.9	63.0	42.0	84.1
11. Thanjavur	33.4	55.5	11.2	66.6	44.5	88.8
12. Ramanathapuram	35.7	54.4	17.7	64.3	45.6	82.3
13. Tirunelveli	36.6	54.3	19.6	63.4	45.7	80.4
14. Kanniyakumari	28.7	50.6	6.1	71.3	49.4	93.9

TABLE 9-3
Number of Workers in the State and Districts in each Category

State/District	Total population	Total number of workers	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
TAMIL NADU	41,199,168	14,741,967	4,607,787	4,490,065	403,295	50,654
1. Madras	2,469,449	696,379	1,061	649	8,923	223
2. Chengalpattu	2,907,599	980,755	238,790	330,254	19,389	2,183
3. North Arcot	3,755,797	1,333,169	510,096	416,303	17,184	4,104
4. South Arcot	3,617,723	1,255,163	523,709	464,411	18,255	14,185
5. Dharmapuri	1,677,775	610,878	349,768	160,727	6,200	2,319
6. Salem	2,992,616	1,182,279	410,554	331,347	14,540	8,982
7. Coimbatore	4,373,178	1,786,460	417,124	570,330	55,296	3,167
8. Nilgiris	494,015	191,813	9,451	14,406	102,146	726
9. Madurai	3,938,197	1,453,938	420,324	526,238	36,325	3,805
10. Tiruchirappalli	3,848,816	1,425,869	631,809	371,131	12,987	4,045
11. Thanjavur	3,840,732	1,282,909	374,324	541,919	25,209	385
12. Ramanathapuram	2,860,207	1,020,345	371,900	275,045	25,671	1,817
13. Tirunelveli	3,200,515	1,171,516	290,757	360,858	33,821	4,081
14. Kanniyakumari	1,222,549	350,494	58,120	126,447	27,349	632

TABLE 9-3—(Contd.)
Number of Workers in the State and Districts in each Category

State/District	Category V(a)	Category V(b)	Category VI	Category VII	Category VIII	Category IX
1	8	9	10	11	12	13
TAMIL NADU	669,913	1,302,424	234,235	1,154,222	465,657	1,363,715
1. Madras	11,171	179,486	33,497	169,531	129,334	162,504
2. Chengalpattu	50,230	112,792	16,422	64,724	41,302	104,669
3. North Arcot	54,759	92,976	14,013	81,321	35,510	106,903
4. South Arcot	24,522	43,967	9,456	56,053	21,803	78,802
5. Dharmapuri	8,202	12,467	4,798	25,273	7,225	33,899
6. Salem	108,393	111,900	19,594	68,248	33,643	75,078
7. Coimbatore	105,859	225,563	44,810	148,756	44,457	171,098
8. Nilgiris	920	15,142	4,055	12,685	5,949	26,333
9. Madurai	46,406	108,319	17,535	127,827	34,123	133,036
10. Tiruchirapalli	44,826	107,460	18,818	94,399	36,099	104,295
11. Thanjavur	31,864	53,444	13,761	102,609	23,517	115,877
12. Ramanathapuram	58,401	90,760	11,980	78,307	14,498	91,966
13. Tirunelveli	105,503	117,632	15,667	97,887	28,822	116,488
14. Kanniyakumari	18,857	30,516	9,829	26,602	9,375	42,767

TABLE 9-4
Distribution of Workers into the Nine Industrial Categories in Rural and Urban
Areas of the State

Industrial Category	Total			Rural			Urban		
	Workers	Percentage		Workers	Percentage		Workers	Percentage	
I	2	3		4	5		6	7	
I Cultivators . . .	4,607,787	31.3		4,420,636	40.3		187,151	5.0	
II Agricultural Labourers . . .	4,490,065	30.5		4,180,735	38.1		309,330	8.2	
III Livestock, Forestry etc. . .	403,295	2.7		280,937	2.6		122,358	3.2	
IV Mining & Quarrying . . .	50,654	0.3		40,278	0.4		10,376	0.3	
V(a) Household Industry . . .	669,913	4.5		401,058	3.6		268,855	7.1	
V(b) Non-Household Industry . . .	1,302,424	8.8		450,512	4.1		851,912	22.6	
VI Construction . . .	234,235	1.6		105,240	1.0		128,995	3.4	
VII Trade and Commerce . . .	1,154,222	7.8		367,884	3.3		786,338	20.9	
VIII Transport, Storage and Communications . . .	465,657	3.2		91,753	0.8		373,904	9.9	
IX Other Services . . .	1,363,715	9.3		634,249	5.8		729,466	19.4	
Total Workers . . .	14,741,967	100.0		10,973,282	100.0		3,768,685	100.0	

TABLE 9-5
Distribution of 1,000 Workers into Different Categories

Sl. No.	State/District	Total Workers	I	II	III	IV	V(a)	V(b)	VI	VII	VIII	IX
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	TAMIL NADU	1,000	313	305	27	3	45	88	16	78	32	93
1.	Madras	1,000	1	1	13	N	16	258	48	244	186	233
2.	Chengalpattu	1,000	243	337	20	2	51	115	17	66	42	107
3.	North Arcot.	1,000	383	312	13	3	41	70	10	61	27	80
4.	South Arcot	1,000	417	370	15	11	20	35	7	45	17	63
5.	Dharmapuri	1,000	573	263	10	4	13	20	8	41	12	56
6.	Salem	1,000	347	280	12	8	92	95	17	58	28	63
7.	Coimbatore	1,000	234	319	31	2	59	126	25	83	25	96
8.	Nilgiris	1,000	49	75	533	4	5	79	21	66	31	137
9.	Madurai	1,000	289	362	25	3	32	75	12	88	23	91
10.	Tiruchirappalli	1,000	443	260	9	3	32	76	13	66	25	73
11.	Thanjavur	1,000	292	422	20	N	25	42	11	80	18	90
12.	Ramanathapuram	1,000	364	270	25	2	57	89	12	77	14	90
13.	Tirunelveli	1,000	248	308	29	4	90	100	13	84	25	99
14.	Kanniyakumari	1,000	166	361	78	2	54	87	28	76	26	122

N-Denotes negligible figures.

TABLE 9-6
Percentage of Workers to Total Workers in each Category for Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State

Caste/Tribe	Total Rural Urban	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Scheduled Castes	T	100.00	18.38	63.80	3.03	0.19	1.15	3.94	0.81	1.12	2.24	5.34	
	R	100.00	20.71	69.14	2.09	0.21	1.05	2.11	0.36	0.47	0.57	3.29	
	U	100.00	4.15	31.11	8.78	0.07	1.77	15.12	3.58	5.06	12.43	17.93	
Scheduled Tribes	T	100.00	44.94	37.29	10.63	0.20	0.52	1.38	0.23	1.46	0.60	2.75	
	R	100.00	47.14	37.81	9.80	0.21	0.46	0.99	0.16	1.12	0.31	2.00	
	U	100.00	4.05	27.73	26.07	0.10	1.48	8.61	1.58	7.80	5.90	16.68	

CHAPTER X

Summing up

We may recapitulate here some of the salient features of the population of Tamil Nadu as revealed by the census, 1971. The people of our State numbering 41.2 million live in 15,735 villages and 439 towns.

Among the States, Tamil Nadu ranks seventh in population size, having 7.5 per cent of the country's total population. The State is spread over an area of about 1.3 lakh square kilometres which is about four per cent of the country. In area it ranks eleventh among the States.

The average density of population in Tamil Nadu is 317 per Km². This is far higher than the country's density of 177. The density of population of Tamil Nadu has gone up from 258 in 1961 to 317 in 1971.

The percentage of urban population has gone up from 14.2 in 1901 to 30.3 in 1971. During the last decade, 1961-71, the urban population of the State has increased by 38.6 per cent as against the increase of 22.3 per cent of the total population. About 44 per cent of our urban population live in the 17 Class-I towns (cities).

The sex ratio, that is, the number of females per thousand males, has been gradually declining in India as a whole, as well as in our State since the beginning of this century. The sex ratio in India has come down from 972 in 1901 to 930 in 1971. In our State, the decline has been from 1,044 in 1901 to 978 in 1971.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

The growth rate of 22.3 per cent registered by our State during 1961-71 is the highest decadal increase ever registered in our State. The annual geometric growth rate of 2.1 per cent of Tamil Nadu is slightly less than the all India rate of 2.22 per cent.

This high growth rate, as has already been explained, is the result of a rapidly falling death rate and an almost static birth rate. During 1951-60 the birth and death rates for the State were 34.9 and 22.5 respectively, per 1,000 population. For the decade 1961-70, the birth and death rates have been estimated as 33.6 and 16.4. In the country as a whole, the death rate has declined from 27.4 in 1941-51 to 18.9 in 1961-71, whereas the birth rate has been around 40 during these three decades.

With such a high fertility level, our age structure has a broad base and a tapering top. 37.8 per cent of our population is in the younger age group of 0-14 and 5.7 per cent is in the age group 60+. These two age groups accounting for 43.5 per cent are a burden on the 56.5 per cent of the population who are in the working age group. For India and Tamil Nadu, the dependency ratios are nearly 92 and 77 respectively. Among the southern States, Tamil Nadu has the lowest dependency ratio.

As regards literacy in the State (including the age group 0-4), the percentage has increased from 20.85 in 1951 to 39.46 in 1971. About 48 per cent among males and 73 per cent among females are still illiterate in the State. These figures show that much remains to be done in this field.

Workers constitute only 35.8 per cent of our population. Among the working population, 61.7 per cent are engaged in cultivation and agricultural labour. Industries (including household industries) engage only 13.4 per cent of workers. The Scheduled Castes account for 17.8 per cent of the State's population and the Scheduled Tribes form only 0.76 per cent.

PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

The facts revealed by the census underline the grave problem facing our country, viz. the rapidly rising population. The high growth rate brings in its wake a series of grave problems—economic and social. It is a stupendous task to provide food, clothing, houses, hospitals, schools and other amenities to the ever growing population. The family planning drive and the programme of planned economic development which are afoot now should enable our country to march towards prosperity more rapidly. The decennial census has an important role in this great endeavour as the national stock-taker.